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REVIEWS OF NEW BOOKS.

CONTROVERSY BETWEEN MR. IMPEY AND
MR. MACAULAY.

Memoirs of Sir Elijah Impey, Knt., First Chief-Justice at Fort William, Bengal, &c. &c. By Elijah Barwell Impey. 8vo, pp. 438. London, Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.

REVIEWERS are not to be suffered to have it all their own way. Eels will not only twist and turn, but absolutely try to bite those who are at the pains of skinning them. It was only the other day (see *Lit. Gaz.*, No. 1545) that Mr. Phillimore ventured, more like a viper than an eel, to have a gnaw at such a file as Mr. Wilson Croker; and here we have an equally bold assailant attacking no less invulnerable a critic than the Right Hon. Thomas Babington Macaulay. By the New Planet outside of Uranus (and this is the first time it has ever been sworn by*), we should not wonder if some desperate poet were to arraign the *Literary Gazette*! Let us hope it may never truly be for wilful mis-statement, partial or party misrepresentation, curriish fault-finding, ludicrous self-importance, or a disregard of the just yet gentle principles which ought unalterably to rule every judicial charge from literature to the public. It is always to be lamented when ill-nature, or motives more dishonest, influence the pen of criticism; though it is yet more to be lamented that there are too many minds so ill-tuned that, whether merited or unmerited, the harsh discords of censure are more agreeable to them than the harmonious tones of praise. People laugh at witnessing little misadventures happening to others; and even serious accidents are rather productive of a self-bugging pleasure than of that disturbance or sorrow which would do more honour to human nature. And so, to a considerable extent, it is with the performance of the critic's office. The snarl makes more noise and has its effect farther than the smile. If we cannot reach what is above us, to pull it down to our own level, or beneath it, flatters the baser passions of the million, and is almost a sure card with the pseudo-director of popular opinion. He must be a great creature, indeed, whom nothing can please: like one of the biggest of beasts, equally capable to overthrow the building of an age, or detect a microscopic flaw among its smallest particles. Yes, the genius of criticism is a marvellous qualification. Possessing it, impudence without learning is decisive authority upon Hebrew, Egyptian, and other most ancient lore; ignorance, with little Latin and less Greek, is definitive upon all classic subjects; grammarless itself, Priscian is not to compare with it for knowledge of the niceties of construction and style; uncultivated, it is more than competent to pronounce without appeal upon every matter of taste in literature or the arts; uneducated, its dicta upon education, individual or national, are oracles; in short, the more profound its negativeness, the more dogmatic is its positiveness. But if these rare gifts of stolidity and conceit are bad, how much worse are they made when uncharitableness and rancour, prejudice and disregard of truth, are superadded! To be led by the nose by a fool is weak and disgraceful enough; but to be led by a sordid, atrabilious, and mischievous ass is a degree of infirmity still more debasing, and deserves the punishment it often

brings along with it. When such as we have sketched are the gods, who can help pitying the worshippers?

Nevertheless, having given way to some general painting, we do not deem ourselves called upon to go to full length into the particular picture before us. It is a very angry remonstrance "in refutation of the calumnies" of Mr. Macaulay in the *Edinburgh Review*; and thus a quarrel wherein we have little business to interpose. It is not from the risk of getting a blow from the pugilists whilst they are fighting, that we decline the office of bottle-holder, but from a sense of respect for the filial inducements which have nerved the author for the combat; whilst, at the same time, we cannot be captivated with his matter, and his manner of putting it. That two broad and distinct views of the conduct of Indian political, judicial, and personal affairs, in the era when Hastings, Impey, Sir Philip Francis, and their contemporaries, governed and distracted that empire, have from that period been a huge national notoriety. The reviewer took the anti-Hastings side, and threw all his force and eloquence into the scale against that great and persecuted man; including, of course, in his darkest colouring, the account of his friend and supporter Sir Elijah Impey, whose memory he has blackened to the utmost extent of party crimination. Shocked by this line of argument, his son, Mr. E. Barwell Impey, has taken up the pen to defend his parent; and, like the pious Æneas, he has borne his burden in a way highly honourable to his character. He has spared no toil to make out his defensive case, and he has invaded the camp of the enemy with a spirit and constancy well becoming such a cause; though in any other less imperative than to rescue the fame of a dead father, it might be thought somewhat too bitter. The motive of the writer must therefore engage the sympathies and the approbation of the world; and we must confess that we should be sorry to find ourselves the object of some of his remarks. The production (review), "on its first appearance, was, like all review articles, anonymous. The well-known peculiarities, indeed, the smartness and antithesis, of Mr. Macaulay's style—which, by the way, has in no degree improved since the writer was a student at Trinity College, Cambridge"—left little doubt as to the authorship; and, in every society I frequented, the article was unhesitatingly attributed to that right honourable gentleman. But still it was 'a deed without a name'; and there are mocking-birds in the field of literature, as well as in the forests of America. Both before and since, I have seen the right honourable reviewer's mannerism so closely imitated, that it has been difficult to tell which was the copy and which the original—which the voice and which the echo. I could not commit myself upon an uncertainty, or combat with a phantom. From that moment, however, I began to collect and arrange materials for a vindication of Sir Elijah Impey, who had thus been evoked from the sanctuary of the tomb, to be re-produced to the world as a monster of meanness and iniquity. At that time, besides myself, there were four children of Sir Elijah yet surviving. We were all most tenderly attached to his memory, and deeply wounded by its desecration. Though not altogether unknown in the world, it is just possible that the reviewer knew nothing of our existence; but it is highly probable that he would not have deranged the symmetry of a single sentence, once constructed, to save five affectionate hearts from anguish. I

abstain as much as possible from mixing up the sanctity of domestic sorrow with resentment of a public wrong; but if there be a slanderer base enough to find pleasure and triumph in having tortured the feelings of delicate and sensitive women, aged and honourable men, he may take my assurance for the fact, that these calumnies have not only embittered the remnants of life, but mingled with the sharpness of death. But I scorn to rest my claim to popular sympathy upon any but popular grounds. It is only upon those grounds that I pause to exemplify, in one instance, the baneful effects—the wide-spreading pestilence of a libellous pen."

A rather impotent conclusion follows this diatribe, viz. that defamatory libels on the dead have always been considered by the soundest lawyers as tending to an overt act of a breach of the peace! Mr. Mill and Mr. Thornton, the historians of India, are hardly less severely handled* by Mr. Impey; and Sir P. Francis, whom he assumes to be the proven writer of *Junius's Letters*, is not left with a rag of virtue to cover his nakedness. If he has any descendants to take up his quarrel, the feud may be perpetuated till, like the Macgregors, a clan is exterminated.

"I shall (says Mr. Impey) assume, then, without stopping to prove, the following facts:—Sir Philip Francis was the author of many anonymous libels; principally, the 'Letters of Junius,' a pamphlet, entitled 'Extract of an Original Letter relative to the Administration of Justice by Sir Elijah Impey, dated 1780'; a book, in two octavo volumes, called 'Macintosh's Travels in Europe, Asia, &c.,' published two years after; and a pamphlet, entitled 'The Answer of Philip Francis, Esq. to the Charges exhibited against him, General Clavering, and Col. Monson, by Sir Elijah Impey, Knight, when at the Bar of the House of Commons, &c.' His identity with Junius I maintain to be established on the united testimony of many able writers.† I will even venture, in addition, to submit my own, *valde quantum valere potest*. I know, and can swear to Sir Philip's handwriting, as compared with the *fac-similes* preserved in Woodfall's last edition. The three other publications above named have been brought home to him by Sir Elijah. I cannot affirm that my father ever declared any positive opinion on the authorship of 'Junius's Letters'; but his exposure of the other three above named is upon record. Now, Sir Philip was in the habit of denying that he was the author of any one of these libels; but if he was convicted of the last three, it approaches to something like presumptive evidence of his being equally guilty of the first. However, I will not argue hypothetically on facts assumed to be already proved; I would rather hazard the chance of contradiction, when I assert, that in habitually disclaiming the authorship of all or any one of these publications, Sir Philip Francis stands convicted, at the very least, of having been an habitual—dissembler."

* On the contrary, Mr. M'Farlane, the writer of the "History of the Indian Empire," in *Knights's Pictorial History*, is warmly eulogised for the pains he took in sifting the voluminous evidence laid before him by Mr. Impey, and the honesty with which he has recorded the facts it revealed.

† Mere trifles sometimes tend to corroborate more weighty proofs. There was an old monkish writer, mentioned in the 'Biographical Dictionary,' Franciscus Junius by name. It appears to me not altogether unlikely that this circumstance may have suggested to Francis, who was a great reader, the name of Junius, in conjunction with his own; but the question in my mind has been completely set at rest, a good many years ago, by Mr. Taylor, in his 'Junius Identified.'

* We wonder what its name will be.—Had it luckily been discovered in England, or even by Lord Rosse's big glass in Ireland, we might have called it Victoria, as an offset from the Georgium Sidus.—*Ed. L. G.*

As we have acknowledged, it is out of our power to enter into this controversy—for it would require a very large space to do it justice: we shall simply intimate the leading points of the charge—they are, that complete refutations at the time, sixty and seventy years ago, have been viciously set aside, or unnoticed from design or ignorance of their existence, though widely public and palpable; that facts have been perverted; that slanders disproved by unquestionable evidence have been repeated as if they had never been contradicted; and that instead of pains having been bestowed in ascertaining the truth, the contrary practice has been adopted, and demonstrable falsehoods propagated to prop up foregone conclusions. "That the book (says its author) should not have appeared until three years after the publication of Mr. Macaulay's essay, has been owing to various circumstances and considerations, in few of which the general reader will take much interest. I may say, however, that I was far more anxious for correctness than for speed; that some of my researches in public offices consumed much time; that I was frequently delayed by waiting for information from distant friends and correspondents, and not seldom retarded by an indifferent state of health. No time, at least, has been wasted in elaborating fine sentences, or seeking after far-fetched illustrations and fanciful effects. Nevertheless, I never contemplated, nor do I contemplate now, that the interest of my book should be merely of a momentary and personal nature. My intention, on the contrary, was, and is, that it should have an interest for all times, and for all men capable of feeling the value of historical truth; that it should prove that repetition of falsehood, however long and obstinately continued, can never accumulate into fact; that, in history and biography, research—industrious, scrupulous research—is of far more account than exquisite writing; that the characters of public men are not to be everlastingly sacrificed to the purposes of faction; and that, eventually, detection, exposure, shame, will await those who deliberately print and publish, in a daring contempt of facts long since passed into legitimate history, and established upon parliamentary proof. And is not this a lesson needed, from time to time, in this writing and reviewing age? And is not the memory of many a just man, as dear to his descendants as my father's is to me, equally exposed to the risk of atrocious defamation? Is not every man who makes himself at all known in the world, who excites the enmity of a party, or the jealousy of a powerful, fashionable writer, liable alike to be assailed in his lifetime, and when he can no longer defend himself, to be calumniated in his grave?"

So much for this quarrel, into which we must explain why we have gone so far as even the short preceding path: we think something due to the distressed feelings of a son, and we know ourselves, from personal acquaintance with one of his family, how sorely the accusations heaped upon the memory of Sir E. Impey afflicted the domestic circle. We think something also due to the interests of just literature, and to the precious foundations of truth; and therefore we could not refrain from indicating the nature of this work, no doubt too slightly to satisfy its author, though not, perhaps, too slightly to avoid offence to the reviewer. Those desirous of fuller information we refer to the copious and iterative volume.

Its miscellaneous parts might attract separate notice. We learn, for example, that when Impey was at Westminster School he displayed much humorous talent; and among his *reliquia* the ballad on Mrs. Arne's bathing in the Thames is mentioned (p. 5). It is a *lettle* too broad for our fastidious day, but whimsical enough. We have it in *ms.*, but did not know the author. It begins,

"Dr. Arne, Dr. Arne, it gives us consarn
That your wife she should prove such a brim—
As to bathe in the Thames, which your neighbours
condemns,
Just seeing as how she can't swim,
Dr. Arne."

And so forth. When Sir Elijah had retired to spend his later years in peace, a gracious picture is drawn of his family and social enjoyments; of the pleasant cultivation of literary leisure; of the respect of old, valued, and eminent friends; and of acts of benevolence and kindness which would ill agree with the character of a bad and worthless man. We select a few passages to relieve the dryness of this paper:

"Among our intimate acquaintance was a wealthy and eccentric old dowager, Lady —, who prided herself on her station and ancient manor-house, and who was a passionate admirer of theatricals. On one occasion, when my father had excused himself, Cavallo was invited to escort her ladyship and my sisters to the play. The philosopher was somewhat behind time, and the party were kept waiting, to the great discontentment of the dowager, who loved to see the curtain draw. It entered not into her conception of the fitness of things that a great dame should be delayed by a poor philosopher, and, at last, her pride and impatience found vent, to my father's no small amusement, in the following ejaculation, as he told the story, 'Cavallo, indeed! Who is your Cavallo? I wonder where he came from? I wonder where his country-house is?' The same old lady was as enthusiastically fond of lapdogs as of plays. At the same time she entertained a constant dread of hydrophobia. Some mischievous neighbours, one day, nearly drove her to distraction by telling her that mad dogs had become very common; and that it was probable her own special favourite had been, or might soon be, bitten. Her ladyship, who had long been accustomed to consult my father, not only on matters relating to law or business, but on all other concerns whatsoever, drove off in a prodigious fidget to our house. 'Oh, Sir Elijah!' said she, 'I fear poor Pop is going mad! do you think there is any danger?' 'None,' replied my father, putting on a serious face, 'none! he can never be mad enough to bite so excellent a mistress. But, should he unhappily impart the malady to any one of the little insects which are familiar to dogs and men. . . I tremble at the thought of your ladyship's being bit by—an hydrophobious flea!' But it was not in this piece of drollery, or in many others, to relieve Sir Elijah from the dowager's consultations.

"When Tolfrey and Halhed, and a few more congenial spirits, met together, there was a collision of wit and a good fellowship at Newick Park which could not easily have been matched elsewhere. 'Halhed,' said a forward young man who presumed to be too familiar with him, 'what is your christian name?' 'Mister,' replied Halhed, 'and I desire you will call me by it.' He had once a black serving-boy, who understood no language but Bengalee. 'Hand me the salt,' said Halhed inadvertently. The black boy stared and shook his head. 'What a stupid fellow,' cried his master, looking hard at him as he pronounced the last word; 'why it's as clear as noon-day!' The lad instantly handed the salt-cellar; for *nán*, in the language of Bengal, is *salt*, and *da* means *give*.

"My father's pleasantry was colloquial; it lay rather in prose than in metrical impromptus, and was mostly of a sort that could win the smiles and sympathies of the fairer sex; for his wit was perfectly exempt from that grossness which was but too prevalent in his earlier days, not only among the gentlemen of the robe, but in other distinguished classes of society. A very accomplished and much-admired lady of quality, one of our nearest neighbours at Newick, knew that Sir Elijah suffered frequently from an affection of the kardia, commonly called 'heart-burn;' and, fearing that he must have nearly exhausted his remedies, kindly offered, one day, to replenish his medicine-chest: 'I thank you,' said he, 'but,' pointing to the chalk-cliffs between Newick and Lewes, 'yonder, madam, is my medicine-chest!'

"Sometimes, especially during the progress of

my education, the object of my father's raileries was myself; for he seemed to consider it no unimportant part of discipline to teach his children how to take a joke. When a boy, others flattered me, and perhaps I flattered myself, that I had a voice and some taste for music. One day I was trying my powers by sundry repetitions of Handel's lively air,

'Oh, had I Jubal's lyre,
Or Miriam's tuneful voice!'

'What a blessing, my dear boy,' exclaimed he, 'that you have neither!'

"But it is time to leave these humorous trifles. Yet will I not leave them without asking whether these, my father's pastimes, this my father's cheerful old age, could characterise a man of rancorous passions; or betoken a heart perverted by ambition, a soul debased by bribery, a conscience burdened with blood? Can the reader, by any possibility, imagine that Sir Elijah's life at Newick Park could be that which I here most conscientiously describe it, if it had been such as his defamers represent it to have been at Calcutta?"

THE ANNUALS.

Fisher's Drawing-Room Scrap-Book for 1847. By the Hon. Mrs. Norton. London, Fisher, Son, and Co.; Paris, H. Mandeville.

In its handsome dress of morocco and gold, we give a hearty welcome to the first of next year's *Annuals*, and the sixteenth of its own series. It is, as of yore, the forerunner of what used to be a more gorgeous crop than now of brilliant productions; but it is also (should it be alone in that predicament?) altogether worthy of the palmist days of these popular volumes. The present *Scrap-book* deserves a much higher name both for embellishment and letterpress, and is a manifest improvement upon its predecessors of later years. Its quarto form is favourable to the display of engravings; and we have no fewer than thirty-six attractive works of various art within the boards of the single volume. Portraits, landscapes, subjects from familiar life, history, and poetry afford alternate scope for poetical illustrations, occupying from one to three pages each, and contributed by the fair Editress, by her sister Lady Dufferin, and by Lord John Manners, Sir Bulwer Lytton, Mr. Milnes, Mr. E. Phipps, Mr. Thackeray, and others. Perhaps the portraits offer the least food for verse which could be exalted into the realm of genius; for it is as difficult to write compliments to individuals so exhibited, as to speak of oneself in the way of self-eulogium in a manner which the public will care to read or hear. Sir Bulwer Lytton has nevertheless, by raising a mortal up to heaven, endeavoured to give an originality to his lines on the likeness of Mrs. Norton. The Queen and Prince Albert are duly and loyally celebrated; and Mr. Cobden and Mr. C. Pelham Villiers are not the less loudly sung, as mighty doers in the Anti-Corn-Law line. Lord Hardinge, Sir Robert Sale, and two or three children of noble families; foreign scenes and scenery from many quarters of the globe, and belonging to many ages; and scriptural pieces from old masters, with a few of domestic character from native modern artists,—fill up the diversity of this copious arrangement. A pretty title-page of flowers with a pair of love-birds on a branch is opposed to the sad, thoughtful expression of Mrs. Norton, alone, as the frontispiece. That such a creature should be alone seems almost to justify her poet's idea, using as he does so unquestionable a rhyme to close the third stanza:

"And mirth may flash around, and love
May breathe its wildest vow;
But neither mirth nor love shall chase
The shadow from thy brow:
There's nought in fate that can efface
From that pale brow,
That stately brow,
The memories born above.
To mortals, mortal change is given—
The sunshine as the rain!

To them the comfort and the care,
The pleasure and the pain!
To thee and thine our very air
Is silent pain,
A heavy pain!
On earth thou askest heaven!"

But literary melancholy is not always real. Shakespeare has taught us the affectation of the humour; and we rejoice to see Mrs. Norton's little playful prefatory address directly contradicting the gloom of her countenance. She defends herself against some imputation of having last year anticipated certain events which befel subjects of picture and praise in that volume, and then sportively observes:

"Having received this year a fresh selection of portraits, I deprecate the notion that I am answerable for any 'coming event,' which does not 'cast its shadow before.' I shrink, for instance, from the responsibility of Mr. Cobden's destiny. He is, I understand, about to make a tour on the Continent. Should he do any thing very romantic; should he persuade some Italian nun to break her vows for his sake; or should any 'Spanish Lady' (in imitation of her whose adventures have been so beautifully illustrated by Lady Dalmeny), offer her heart—and, failing that, her jewel-case—for his acceptance; I protest against being invested, on that account, with the robes of a Cassandra, or being supposed to have made indirect allusion to those triumphs by any expressions which admiration for his talents and esteem for his general character, may have suggested to my muse. And, finally, I hope that such of the aristocracy as have been chosen (not by me, but by my publisher) to adorn this work, will conduct themselves in an orderly, seemly, and steady manner; at all events till Christmas and New-Year's day shall be past, and the *Scrap-Book* be laid on their different tables in undoubted irresponsibility of intention."

The hints about Cobden, "the master-mind," are not bad. Being evidently too late to contest the Princess Luisa with the Duke Montpensier (and indeed the King of the French, by courting him when at Paris, gave a sop to keep him out of the country till the affair was settled), some other high "Spanish Lady" might be made the source of romantic uneasiness to the inestimable Mrs. C., and Lady Dalmeny have a modern theme for her pleasing pencil.

But we do not think it likely either that Richard Cobden should misrepresent Salford or Manchester abroad by running away with Italian nuns or away from Spanish ladies. He is too much of a John Bull to emulate the amorous fancies inspired by bull-fights (see page 8, an example by Herbert, engraved by H. Cook); and though he can dissolve the League with credit to himself, he could scarcely do the same by his wedded vows. Bartlett and Allom furnish some of the charming scenery to which we have alluded; and Coblenz by the former invokes our first pause on the congenial description by Mrs. Norton, of which the following is the conclusion:

"Oh, river! at this present time,
How like thy unreturning tide,
Bright, fleeting, wonderfully fair,
Those vanished days before me glide:
The 'Journal' now is locked away—
The 'Sketch-Book' opened with a sigh,
And pictures of the lovely Rhine
Are gazed at with a saddened eye,
Because so much that then was joy
Succeeding years have changed to pain;
So much can only grieve the heart
That made it beat with pleasure then!"

Lady Dufferin takes the prominent lead in the volume both for the gay and the grave—the former redolent of easy pleasantry, the latter of taste and feeling. We may take any of the specimens in a style in which the author is very successful: this the first of them—

"Chinese going out to meet the Spring."
Well! the assurance of some persons! Just conceive so bold a thing
As those horrid Chinese monsters going out to meet the spring,

With their lanterns, and their banners, and their tom-toms, and their drums!

Why, they'll frighten back the flowers long before the summer comes!

Are their roses like young ladies, that there need be such a rout,
Such confabs, and monster-meetings, at their time of 'coming out'?

Or has the Chinese empire some celestial Doctor Reid, Without whose ventilation the warm weather can't proceed?

Do imperial edicts sanction that it shall be hot at noon? Have the gas-contractors orders to 'turn-on' the sun and moon?

Do the mandarins imagine—without laughing in their sleeves— That the very tea-trees cannot bud without their worships' leaves?

What should such folks know of Nature? what should Nature know of them? Are such pig-eyed creatures worthy even to kiss her garment's hem?

No! she sends them some mock-goddess, some tawdry, painted thing, And it's, 'Hail, fellow! well met!' with their own peculiar spring.

I have never been to China; and, I trust, I never can— Be chosen as ambassador to Peking or Chusan; But I know the sort of place it is, as well as wiser pates, From different 'Works on China,' illustrated with plates.

The colour of the country is a kind of dirty blue, With chaotic sky and water, here and there, appearing through;

Interspersed with little bridges, and paths that seem to guide To—nothing in particular—upon the other side.

The scenery's monotonous, but singularly grand, And 'tis called 'the willow pattern' at Mortlock's in the Strand.

Other notices, if needed, fancy easily supplies: Doves as big as bustards cooling from pagodas in the skies, Curious, frightful flowers, growing upside down and inside out,

Trees with fifty sorts of foliage, some with roots and some without. Every thing as it should not be! Fish with feathers, birds with fins,

Nature playing at cross-questions, ending ere she well begins! Just as if the merry goddess (after dinner among friends,) Had made up this patch-work country out of all her odds and ends!

Just conceive the spring amusements, how delightful they must be! Junk excursions down Quang River, sails upon the Yellow Sea,

Pic-nic parties under tea-trees met to see some bird's-eye view, For in lands without perspective other prospects must be few!

Artists struck with admiration (Chinese artists are not nice!) At some charming mud plantation tastefully turned up with rice;

Mandarins in yellow buttons handing you 'conserves of snails'; Smart young men about Canton in nankin tights and peacock tails!

Then conceive the dreadful dainties, kitten cutlets, puppy pies, Bird's-nest soup, which (so convenient!) every bash about supplies.

But enough! My soul, turn from them! Let the creatures take their ding, Only—don't join that procession going out to meet the spring!"

Mrs. Harris's "Soliloquy while threading her needle," after Mr. W. Sharp's picture, is equally amusing; whilst "The Teacher," Redgrave's sad-denying representative of that generally too unfortunate class, is of a tone well suited to the design. But as we would rather encourage the cheerful at the season of Annual gifts, for which this publication is so admirably suited, we will pass all else, even the merry poem suggested by the portrait of the Princess of Hohenlöhe-Langenbourg, and conclude with that on "Donna Inez's Confession," upon a naive painting by J. Herbert.

"Donna Inez, Consuelo,
De Asunción y Belvor,
Kneeleth by the patient friar,
Saying her 'Confiteor.'
Greatly puzzled is the father
At the truth he can but guess,
Donna Inez being rather
Apt to wander and digress;
With transitions instantaneous
(Which in ladies seldom fail)
Mingling matters quite extraneous
With her interesting tale.
'Well, good daughter, pray continue,
Candour doth repentance prove;
How did this Don Pedro win you

First to listen to his love?"

'Father, yes! as I was saying,
I was prudent and reserved,
All his flattering vows repaying
With the scorn they well deserved;
'Sir!'—I said, and I was going
To say something still more strong,
By my distant manner shewing
That I thought him—really—wrong!
When, at this important minute,
Looking toward the chamber-door,
Who should put her head within it,
(So unlovely! such a bore!)
But my cousin Natalita,
With her hair all out of curl!
I confess I could have beat her—
Horrid, flirting, odious girl!
'Twas the greater inconvenience,
For, of course, Don Pedro caught
From my involuntary lenience,
More assurance than he ought.
Well, next day (a great bull-baiting
Was arranged the night before)
Natalita kept us waiting
Full two hours, I'm sure, and more.
Nothing could be more annoying,
Really now I wished for wings,
Pedro all that time employing
Saying fifty foolish things.
Nothing could have been discreeter
Than my answers—quite sublime!
Still I think that Natalita
Might have dressed in proper time;
But you know, when people's faces
Are by nature but so-so,
It takes time in certain cases
Just to make them fit to show!
Not that some folks' estimation
Of their charms is very just—
Had you seen that girl's flirtation
'Twould have filled you with disgust!
Such vile ogling and coquetting,
Staring in Don Pedro's face;
All propriety forgetting
Due to every public place!
He (to do him justice merely)
Shewed great sense of what was right;
And to prove his meaning clearly
Only danced with me that night.
If since that time, holy father,
My forbearance has been more;
If his visits have been rather
Longer than they were before,
Why, indeed, it is for this chief
Reason, as all Seville knows,
Just to keep him out of mischief.
(Here the father rubbed his nose.)
'Not much more than half a dozen
Visits has he paid this week;
But, of course, my charming cousin
To a dozen more would speak:
Every kind of base invention
She maliciously has spread;
But I don't think fit to mention
All the odious girl has said.
As for me, a temper sweeter
Job himself could hardly keep!
But my Cousin Natalita—
(Here the father dropped asleep.)
Back again, in time for dinner,
In her chair fair Inez goes;
At each vile pedestrian snarler
Turning up her ivory nose,
Comforted beyond expression
(See what power such candour wins!)
By her full and true confession
Of all—Natalita's sins!"

Fisher's Juvenile Scrap-Book. By the Author of "The Women of England." Pp. 102. Same Publishers.

ENCLOSED within about the prettiest binding we ever saw, Mrs. Ellis has here prepared for the young a series of moral and useful lessons in verse and prose. We should like a little more of the sugar with the physic of instruction, however mild and gentle. But we can with the less risk say that such a production cannot be exhibited to youth without having a beneficial effect upon it. Sixteen engravings adorn the volume.

THE UNIVERSE.

Thoughts on some Important Points relating to the System of the World. By J. P. Nichol, LL.D., Professor of Astronomy in the University of Glasgow. Edinburgh, Tait; London, Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.; Dublin, Cumming.

WERE we inclined to adopt that satirical vein in which reviewers too frequently take delight, the book before us would afford an eligible opportunity. The style is turgid: there is throughout a

want of perspicuity, and frequently an absence of grammatical accuracy. But the author means well: he is, as well he may be, enraptured with the science he cultivates, and carried away by a species of pious enthusiasm into a wild verbiage, to which criticism would be misapplied.

We are not of those who would deprecate enthusiasm in the votaries of science. The fault of the age is perhaps a leaning to the opposite extreme. Minute accuracy of detail, indefinite accumulation of statistical facts, a tendency to value researches more in proportion to the elaborate care bestowed on them than to their general results, mark too strongly the scientific productions of the day. We believe that great scientific truths have more frequently owed their development to a boldness of theory, and to a poetry of imagination, than to didactic formulæ or microscopic accuracy. Each, however, in its place, and to each "sunt certi fines quos ultra citraque nequit consistere rectum."

As far as we can gather the conclusions of the author from his book (a task of no small difficulty, so deeply are they enveloped in magniloquent phraseology), we do not dissent from them. We agree in a belief of the infinitude of the universe; we agree in believing the universality of motion, or of mutability. We agree mainly in the author's view of efficient causation, viz. that though objectively it is a phenomenal sequence, yet that subjectively it resolves itself into the immediate working of infinite and absolute power; but we doubt the probability which he indicates of a period ever arriving when faculties may be reached which will enable man to unfold final causes, or to connect the scheme of external mutations with the absolute Spirit. This seems to us in no wise short of omniscience, and beyond the reach of man in the highest conceivable state of development. The finite can never comprehend the infinite.

The plates in this work constitute by no means the smallest part of its value; as far as we are aware, they contain the first published impressions of the nebulae as resolved by the telescope of Lord Rosse. The disproof of a favourite and generally received theory which the discoveries made by this instrument has afforded, would indeed present a strong argument against the advantage of theory, or even against theory itself; but it is not because theories are disproved that theories are useless—the generalisation from very limited data must gradually give place to that from more enlarged ones; but it is the inaccurate generalisation which has led to the discovery of the more accurate facts. All our theories are unstable; but without them science becomes a mere record of isolated facts, which it is better to link with a fragile or imperfect chain than to leave for ever as an incongruous mass.

Dr. Nichol adopts, as a demonstrated fact, the systematic parallax; regarded only as a probability by Sir J. Herschel, from the observations and deductions of his father. Many considerations would lead us to regard as highly probable the motion of our sun in space, and the probability of its revolving round some more glorious orb; the observations of Sir W. Herschel are confirmatory of a view which would be probable from other dynamical considerations. Thence, again, we are led theoretically to regard the other stars, called fixed, as each having progressive movements; the double stars possibly not only revolving round their centres of gravity, but also forming a larger circle round a greater centre, waltzing, as it were, through their orbits; the great central bodies again moving round other centres; and so on until the mind loses itself in infinity.

Can we indeed conceive a limitation to the universe? Each new power of penetration into space shews us a new and larger sphere of astra existences: no boundary, no variancy! If this enormity of existence, as compared with our every-day notions of magnitude, be bounded, by what is it bounded?—by matter, or by mere empty space? If by the former, as all our knowledge tends to a

belief in the unceasing activity of matter, this would again constitute or continue the universe; if by the latter, the infinity of surrounding space would reduce even the enormous visible universe to a mere comparative speck; and we thus get the improbable notion of an infinite void comprehending a speck or point of material and vital existence. But we are ourselves being led astray by the subject, and should soon find both ideas and language fade into an irresolvable nebulous mist.

With the most friendly wishes, we would caution Dr. Nichol against the error we believe him to have committed, viz. that of mistaking extravagance of phraseology for eloquence, and imagining that magniloquence can be sustained without producing weariness. Purity, perspicuity, and euphony of language, form the staples of continuous eloquence, both in speaking and writing; the torrent of words, like the cataract of the river, should be occasional to be impressive; the transit of that narrow line which separates the sublime from the ridiculous can only be avoided by a cautious use of great power, when such is possessed, and this can never be attained by any but the highest order of intellect. We conclude with a specimen of our author's style, one of the best passages we can find: it will be seen to possess the faults to which we have alluded, though in a less degree than many which we might have selected. Speaking of the nebulous cosmogony, Dr. Nichol says: "In regard to the hypothesis of the cosmogony, it seems to contain nothing peculiar or new; for in such speculations it has ever been a favourite idea that matter, in attaining the solid form, must have passed from the gaseous. The notion of huge aeriform masses in mere mechanical mixture gradually losing their overpowering heat, and passing into a state in which, through the exercise of their manifold and exquisite chemical relations, all the various forms and uses of which they are susceptible could be unfolded, has been ever felt as a pleasing representation of the proximate origin of our own world; and it seemed to involve conceptions alike noble and lofty when, with reverential daring, it was extended to the whole universe of stars. Realise for one moment the position of a tenant of a hut on the banks of the mighty Amazon, at one of its great bendings; tell him that the waters whose opposite bank his vision can scarce reach are not an immense lake, but that, born of rills among mountains that are unseen, and ever increasing in depth and potency, they roll downwards until a whole continent is passed, and then mingle and lose themselves with an ocean engirdling the wide earth with its everlasting waves: so, in the view of these high cosmogonies, seemed to roll on those gorgeous stellar developments whose limits no eye can now see, rising in the past depths of time in some hidden purpose of God; rolling onwards as these ages flow, and augmenting like the mighty river until the boundary of time is reached, and their course ends among the quietudes of eternity. Nor was this the entire of the splendid vision. There is, indeed, a sublimity in the abysses of space and time replete even with an inanimate but ever-stirring mechanism; but the highest sublimity is in the strife of the moral will, in the victories of the spirit over imperfection and pain. Now, in this grand array of worlds,—unfolding during time, through long gradations, into principalities, and dominions, and thrones,—what have we save a mighty theatre, whose drama must rise in solemnity even as it extends; that drama, I mean, that contest with *finite*, which must prevail wherever the immortal is enclosed within the finite; and which, though an essential, is not a peculiar attribute of the condition in which man is placed? Yes! there must pass through all these worlds—their dread interest deepening as they grow—the various stages of the strife and heroic struggle, on whose banner is Onward! The cry of the weak for succour, the trusting prayer of the victim, the voice of high aspiration, and the grateful song of him that over-

cometh, long as these grandeurs endure, must be ringing through all their spaces, clearer than the spherul music; and flooding onwards, unresisted, up even to where the Great God dwells for evermore."

CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES.

Canada and the Canadians in 1846. By Sir R. H. Bonnycastle, Knt. 2 vols. H. Colburn. We have had of late years, and even months, several pleasant and intelligent books relative to Canada; and whether we consider the interest attached to all its minor circumstances, or the vast colonial importance of the whole, we may say for the British public that we are as yet by no means glutted with the subject, especially when we have so lively and agreeable, and also so well-informed, a companion as Lieut.-Col. Bonnycastle, whose previous work on the same province as it was five years ago met with so welcome a reception, and taught us what to expect from any future essay. Accordingly, we are glad once more to traverse with him the region of which he says: "Canada is, as I have written in former volumes to prove, a magnificent country. I doubt very much if Nature has created a finer country on the whole earth. The soil is generally good, as that made by the decay of forests for thousands of years upon substrata, chiefly formed of alluvion or diluvion, the deposit from waters, must be. It is, moreover, from Quebec to the Falls of St. Mary, almost a flat surface, intersected and interlaced by numberless streams, and studded with small lakes, whilst its littoral is a river unparalleled in the world, expanding into enormous fresh-water seas, abounding with fish. If the tropical luxuries are absent, if its winters are long and excessively severe, yet it yields all the European fruits abundantly, and even some of the tropical ones, owing to the richness of its soil and the great heat of the summer. Maize, or Indian corn, flourishes, and is more wholesome and better than that produced in the warm south. The crops of potato, that apple of the earth, as the French so justly term it, are equal, if not superior, to those of any other climate; whilst all the vegetables of the temperate regions of the old world grow with greater luxuriance than in their original fields. I have successively and successfully cultivated the tomato, the melon, and the capsicum, in the open air, for several seasons, at Kingston and Toronto, which are not the richest or the best parts of Western Canada, as far as vegetation is concerned. Tobacco grows well in the western district; and where is finer wheat harvested than in Western Canada? whilst hay, and that beauty of a landscape, the rich green sod, the velvet carpet of the earth, are abundant and luxuriant. If the majesty of vegetation is called in question, and intertropical plants brought forward in contrast, even the woods and trackless forests of Guiana, where the rankest of luxuriance prevails, will not do more than compete with the glory of the primeval woods of Canada. I know of nothing in this world capable of exciting emotions of wonder and adoration more directly than to travel alone through its forests. Pines, lifting their hoary tops beyond man's vision, unless he inclines his head so far backwards as to be painful to his organisation, with trunks which require fathoms of line to span them; oaks of the most gigantic form; the immense and graceful weeping elm; enormous poplars; whose magnitude must be seen to be conceived; lindens, equally vast; walnut-trees of immense size; the beautiful birch, and the wild cherry, large enough to make tables and furniture of."

We will let this extract stand for our introduction: it is hitherto that 25,000 emigrants proceed every year from the mother-country, and to them the publication before us must be an excellent guide.

"No free grants of land are now given, but the settler may obtain them upon easy terms from the government, or the Canada and British American companies. The settler with a small capital cannot

do better than to be a bad not turn of difficult to m locations, from 7s. 6d. called; to if very el pounds good land, hundred a another fit he can co pounds ste he has a happy. E He and al of the bac snake, wh Whisky au man in C of all well and lever dram and "In th nada is or shire and to shew something only state informed vince con [506,505] chiefly wh years of a whilst in most accu it is only Ireland, a individual, 0.82 per children still the gallons for the excis excessive tributed called Ca a thermo alternati the earth no hard of lakes "I h drinking man of who, af the mo and wat idiot, bu of his neas, an families owing t on the raw wh fresh hi tomed lates. their p straw f of whis from th your p Great Nex impute "Su mense only to is the o roads o

do better than purchase out and out. Instalments are a bad mode of purchasing; for if all should not turn out right, instalments are sometimes difficult to meet; and the very best land, in the best locations, as we shall hereafter see, is to be had from 1s. 6d., if in the deep Bush, as the forest is called; to 10s., if nearer a market; or 15s. and 20s., if very eligibly situated. Thus for two hundred pounds a settler can buy two hundred acres of good land, can build an excellent house for two hundred and fifty more, and stock his farm with another fifty, as a beginning; or, in other words, he can commence Canadian life for five hundred pounds sterling, with every prospect before him, if he has a family, of leaving them prosperous and happy. But he and they must work, work, work. He and all his sons must avoid whisky, that bane of the backwoods, as they would avoid the rattlesnake, which sometimes comes across their path. Whisky and wet feet destroy more promising young men in Canada than ague and fever, that scourge of all well-watered woody countries; for the ague and fever seldom kill but with the assistance of the dram and of exposure.*

"In the whole North American continent, Canada is only exceeded by the States of New Hampshire and Connecticut in the lists of insanity; and to shew that intemperance as well as climate has something to do with this melancholy result, I shall only state, without entering into details, that a well-informed resident has calculated, that when the province contained the above number of inhabitants [306,505] the consumption of alcoholic liquors, chiefly whisky, was, excluding children under fifteen years of age, five gallons a year for every inhabitant; whilst in 1843, in England and Wales, where the most accurate returns of the excise prove the fact, it is only 0.69 of a gallon; in Scotland, 2.16; in Ireland, 0.64; and the total consumed by each individual, not excluding those under fifteen, is only 682 per annum for the three kingdoms. If the children under fifteen in Canada are to be included, still the consumption of spirit is awful, being 2½ gallons for each; but it must be much higher, since the excise is not regulated as at home. That such excessive drinking prevails in Canada may be attributed partly to the cheapness of a vile mixture, called Canadian whisky, and partly to climate, with a thermometer ranging to 120°, and with such rapid alternations. In Canada, also, man really conquers the earth by the sweat of his brow; for there is no harder labour than the preparation of timber and the subduing of a primeval forest in a country of lakes and swamps.

"I have an instance of the effect of excessive drinking daily before my door, in the person of a man of respectable family and of excellent talents, who, after habitually indulging himself with at last the moderate quantum of sixty glasses of spirits and water a day, now roams the streets a confirmed idiot, but, strange to say, never touches the cause of his malady. Are, therefore, not idiocy, madness, and perhaps two-thirds of the dreadful calamities to which human nature is subject here, owing to whisky? I have seen an Irish labourer on the works take off at a draught a tumbler of raw whisky, made from Indian corn or oats, to refresh himself; this would kill most men unaccustomed to it; but a corroded stomach it only stimulates. Canada is a fine place for drunkards; it is their paradise—'Get drunk for a penny; clean straw for nothing' there. Think, my dear reader, of whisky at tenpence a gallon—cheaper than water from the New River in London. Father Mathew, your principles are much wanted on this side of Great Britain!"

Next to spirituous liquors, the ruin of settlers is imputed to the immoderate indulgence in tobacco: "Smoking to excess is another source of immense evil in the backwoods. A man accustomed only to a cigar gets at last accustomed to the lowest

and vilest of tobacco. I used to laugh at some of my friends in Seymour, when I saw them with a broken tobacco-pipe stuck in the ribbon of their straw hats. These were men who had paraded in their day the shady side of Pall Mall. They found a pipe a solace, and cigars were not to be had for love or money. 'Why do you not put your pipe at least out of sight?' said I. 'It is the Seymour Arms' crest,' responded my good natured gentlemen farmers, 'and we wear it accordingly.' Smoking all day, from the hour of rising, is, I actually believe, more injurious to the nerves than hard drinking. It paralyses exertion. I never saw an Irish labourer, with his hod and his pipe, mounting a ladder, but I was sure to discover that he was an idler. I never had a groom that smoked much who took proper care of my horses; and I never knew a gentleman seriously addicted to smoking who cared much for any thing beyond self."

These indulgences being eschewed, the following are the conclusions of a competent character, who had examined the New World pretty thoroughly in quest of a spot whereon to rest:

"John Bull had visited almost every portion of the Northern and Western States, was a shrewd, observing character, and had come to the conclusion, which he very plainly expressed, that the state of society in the Union was not to his taste; that he could procure lands as cheap and as good for his gold in Canada, and that to Canada he would bring his old woman and his children. 'Eor,' said he, 'in the London or Western districts of Upper Canada the land is equal to any in the United States, the climate better, and by and by it will supply all Europe with grain.' Settling there, an Englishman will not always be put in mind of the inferiority of the British to the Americans; will not always be told that kings and queens are childish humbugs; and will not have his work hindered and his mind poisoned by constant elections and everlasting grasping for office. While,' says John to Jonathan, 'I am in Canada just as free as you are, I pay no taxes, or only such as I control myself, and which are laid out in roads, or for my benefit. I can worship after the manner of my fathers, without being robbed or burnt out, and I meet no man who thinks himself a bit better than myself; but as I shall take care to settle a good way from republican sympathisers for the sake of my poor property, I shall always find my neighbours as proud of Queen Victoria as I be myself.' Jonathan replied, that he had no manner of doubt that Miss Victoria was a real lady, for every female is a lady in the States, the word being understood only as an equivalent for womankind; and that John might like petticoat government, but, for his part, he calculated it was better to be a king one's-self, which every citizen of the enlightened republic was, and no mistake. And kings they are; for all power resides there in the body of which, he was a favourable specimen, but which does not always shew its members in so fair a light."

Of certain descriptions of "immigrants," the author, however, draws us very flattering pictures. But they are happily mixed—*ex. gr.*:

"The English franklin and the English peasant who come here usually weigh their allegiance a little before they make up their minds; but if they have been persuaded that Queen Victoria's reign is 'a baneful domination,' they either go to the United States at once, or to those portions of Canada where sympathy with the stars and stripes is the order of the day. If they be Scotch radicals, the most uncompromising and the most bitter of all politicians, they seek Canada only with the ultimate hope of revolutionising it. But the latter are more than balanced by the respectable Scotch, who emigrate occasionally upon the same principles which actuate the respectable portion of the English emigrants, and by the hardy Highlanders already settled in various parts of the colony, whose proverbial loyalty is proof against the arts of the demagogue. The great mass of emi-

grants may, however, be said to come from Ireland, and to consist of mechanics of the most inferior class, and of labourers. These are all impressed with the most absurd notions of the riches of America, and on landing at Quebec often refuse high wages with contempt to seek the Cathay of their excited imaginations westward. If they be Orangemen, they defy the pope and the devil as heartily in Canada as in Londonderry, and are loyal to the backbone. If they are Repealers, they come here sure of immediate wealth, to kick up a deuce of a row, for two shillings and sixpence currency is paid for a day's labour, which two shillings and sixpence was a hopeless week's fortune in Ireland; and yet the Catholic Irish who have been long settled in the country are by no means the worst subjects in this transatlantic realm, as I can personally testify, having had the command of large bodies of them during the border troubles of 1837-8. They are all loyal and true. In the event of a war the Catholic Irish, to a man,—and what a formidable body it is in Canada and the United States!—will be on the side of England. O'Connell has prophesied rightly there, for it is not in human nature to forget the wrongs which the Catholics have suffered for the past ten years in a country professing universal freedom and toleration. The Americans of the better classes, with whom I have conversed admit this; but their dislike of the Irish is rooted and general among all the native race; and they fear as well as mistrust them, because, in many of the largest cities, New York for one, the Irish predominate. The Americans say, and so do the Canadians, that, for some years back, since the repeal agitation at home, a few very ignorant and very turbulent priests of the lowest grade have found their way across the Atlantic. I have travelled all over Canada, and lived many years in the country, and have been thrown among all classes, from my having been connected with the militia. I never saw but one specimen of Irish hedge-priest, and therefore do not credit the assertion; this one came out last year, and a more furious bigot or a more republican ultra I never met with, at the same time that he was as ignorant as could be conceived. Such has not hitherto been the case with the Catholic priesthood of the Canadas. The French Canadian clergy are a body of pious, exemplary men; not perhaps shining in the galaxy of science, but unobtrusive, gentlemanly, and an honour to the *soutane* and *chasuble*.

We have a good description of one striking class (lumberers), often encountered by the settler in clearing his way through the forest:

"Here, after you have hewed or erpt your toiling way, you see, some yards or some hundred yards, as the forest is close or open, before you a light blue curling smoke amongst the dank and lugubrious scene; you hear a dull, distant, heavy, sudden blow, frequent and deadened, followed at long intervals by a tremendous rending, crashing, overwhelming rush; then all is silent, till the voice of the guardian of man is heard growling, snarling, or barking outright, as you advance towards the blue smoke, which has now, by an eddy of the wind, filled a large space between the trees. You stand before the fire, made under three or four sticks set up tenwise, to which a large cauldron is hung, bubbling and seething, with a very strong odour of fat pork; a boy, dirty and ill-favoured, with a sharp glittering axe, looks very suspiciously at you, but calls off his wolfish dog, who sneaks away. A moment shews you a long hut, formed of logs of wood, with a roof of branches, covered by birch-bark; and by its side, or near the fire, several nondescript sties or pens, apparently for keeping pigs in, formed of branches close to the ground, either like a boat turned upside down, or literally as a pigsty is formed, as to shape. In the large hut, which is occasionally more luxurious, and made of slabs of wood or of rough boards, if a saw-mill is within reasonable distance, and there is a passable wood-road, or creek or

* "Whisky, be it known, with very atrocious brandy, is the only beverage, excepting water, along the country-roads of Canada."

rivulet navigable by canoes, you see some barrel or two of pork, and of flour, or biscuit, or whisky, some tools, and some old blankets or skins. Here you are in the lumberer's winter home: I cannot call him woodman, it would disgrace the ancient and ballad-sung craft; for the lumberer is not a gentle woodman, and you need not sing sweetly to him 'to spare that tree.' The larger dwelling is the hall, the common hall, and the pig-sties the sleeping-places. I presume that such a circumstance as pulling off habiliments or ablution seldom occurs: they roll themselves in a blanket or skin, if they have one; and as to water, they are so frequently in it during the summer that I suppose they wash half the year unintentionally. Fat pork, the fattest of the fat, is the lumberer's luxury; and as he has the universal rifle or fowling-piece, he kills a partridge, a bear, or a deer, now and then. I was exploring last year some woods in a newly settled township, the township of Seymour West, in the Newcastle district of Upper Canada, with a view to see the nakedness of the land, which had been represented to me as flowing with milk and honey, as all new settlements of course are said to do. I wandered into the lonely but beautiful forest, with a companion who owned the soil, and who had told me that the lumberers were robbing him and every settler around of their best pine timber. After some toiling and tracing the sound of the axes, few and far between, felling in the distance, we came upon the unvarying boy at cookery, the axe, and the dog. My conductor at once saw the extent of the mischief going on, and finding that the gang, although distant from the camp-fire, was numerous, advised that we should retrace our steps. We, however, interrogated the boy, who would scarcely answer, and pretended to know nothing. The dog began to be inquisitive too; and one of the dogs we had with us venturing a little too near a savoury piece of pork, the nature of the young half bred ruffian suddenly blazed out, and the axe was uplifted to kill poor Dash. I happened to have a good stick, and interfered to prevent dog-murder; upon which the wood-demon ejaculated that he would as soon let out my guts as the dog's, and therefore my companion had to shew his gun; for shewing his teeth would have been of little avail with the young savage. The settlers are afraid of the lumberers; and thus all the finest land, near rivers, creeks, or transport of any kind, is swept of the timber to such an extent that you must go now far, far back from the lakes, the St. Lawrence, or the Ottawa, before you can see the forest in its primeval grandeur. This robbery has been carried on in so barefaced and extensive a manner that the chief adventurer, usually a merchant or trader, who supplies the axe and canoe with pay in his shop-goods, cent per cent above their value, becomes enriched. The lumberer's life is truly an unhappy one; for whenever he reaches the end of the raft's voyage, whatever money he may have made goes to the fiddle, the female, or the fire-water; and he starts again as poor as at first, living, perhaps, by a rare chance to the advanced age, for a lumberer, of forty years. And a curious sight is a raft, joined together, not with ropes, but with the limbs and thews of the swamp or blue beech, which is the natural cordage of Canada, and is used for scaffolding and packing. A raft a quarter of a mile long—I hope I do not exaggerate, for it may be half a mile, never having measured one but by the eye—with its little huts of boards, its apologies for flags and streamers, its numerous little masts and sails, its cooking caboose, and its contrivances for anchoring and catching the wind by slanting boards, with the men who appear on its surface as if they were walking on the lake, is curious enough; but to see it in *drams*, or detached portions, sent down foaming and darting along the timber slides of the Ottawa or the restless and rapid Trent, is still more so; and fearful it is to observe its *conducteur*, who looks in the rapid by no means so much at his ease

as the functionary of that name to whom the Paris diligence is entrusted. Numberless accidents happen; the dams are torn to pieces by the violence of the stream; the rafts are broken by storm and tempest; the men get drunk and fall over; and altogether it appears extraordinary that a raft put together at the Trent village for its final voyage to Quebec should ever reach its destination, the transport being at least 450 miles; and many go much farther, through an open and ever-agitated freshwater sea, and amongst the intricate channels of The Thousand Islands, and down the tremendous rapids of the Longue Sault, the Gallope, the Cedars, the Cascades, &c.

"But a new trade has lately commenced on Lake Ontario, which will break up some of the hardships of the rafting. Old steamboats of very large size, when no longer serviceable in their vocation, are now cut down, and perhaps lengthened, masted, and rigged, as barques or ships, and treated in every respect like the Atlantic timber-vessels. Into these three-masters, these leviathans of Lake Ontario, the timber, boards, staves, handspikes, &c., from the interior are now shipped, and the timber carried to the head of the St. Lawrence navigation. One step more, and they will, as soon as the canals are widened, proceed from Lake Superior to London without a raft being ever made."

Though not a lumbering account of the lumberers we will relieve it, as our author does, with a story:

"There was a funny fellow, an Irish auctioneer at Kingston, some years ago, called Paddy Moran, whom all the world, priest and parson, minister and methodist, soldier and sailor, tinker and tailor, went to hear when he mounted his rostrum. He was selling the goods of a quarter-master-general who was leaving the place. At last he came to the cellar and the rum. 'Now, gentlemen,' says Moran, 'I advise you to buy this rum—7s. 6d. a gallon! going! Gentlemen, I was once a sojer—don't laugh, you officers there, for I was—and a sergeant into the bargain. It wasn't in the Irish militia—bad luck to you, lieutenant, for laughing that way, it will spoil the rum! I was the tip-top of the sergeant's of the regiment—long life to it! Yes, I was quarter-master- sergeant, and hadn't I the saving out of the rations; and didn't I know what good ration-rum was; and didn't I help myself to the prime of it! Well, then, gentlemen and ladies—I mane, Lord save ye, ladies and gentlemen—if a quarter-master- sergeant in the army had good rum, what the devil do you think a quarter-master-general gets?' The rum rose to fifteen shillings per gallon at the next bid."

And here is the Canadian receipt for sherry-cobbler!

"Let the sun shine at about 80° Fahrenheit. Then take a lump of ice; fix it at the edge of a board: rasp it with a tool made like a drawing-knife or carpenter's plane, set face upwards. Collect the raspings, the fine raspings, mind,—in a capacious tumbler; pour thereon two glasses of good sherry, and a good spoonful of powdered white sugar, with a few small bits, not slices, but bits of lemon, about as big as a gooseberry. Stir with a wooden macerator. Drink through a tube of macaroni or vermicelli. 'C'est l'eau benite,' as the English lord said to the *garçon* at the Milles Colonnnes, when he first tasted real *parfait amour*. 'C'est beaucoup mieux, Milor,' answered the waiter, with a profound reverence."

[Conclusion in our next.]

SWITZERLAND: RELIGION AND REVOLUTION. *Switzerland and the Swiss Churches: being Notes of a short Tour, and Notices of the principal Religious Bodies in that Country.* By W. Lindsay Alexander, D.D., &c. Pp. 336. Glasgow, James Maclehose.

It is not every day that a revolution breaks out *apropos* to puff a publication; but even beyond its own inherent deserts, the pregnant overthrow of

the government of Geneva has certainly occurred most opportunely to rivet attention to Dr. Alexander's volume. He exposes the religious and political condition of the Cantons (the religious and political questions being inseparably combined), and throws more light upon the dangerous elements now in conflict there than we have found by our reading in any other quarter. His book, therefore, demands the prompt and steadfast regard not only of England, but of the Continent.

His publisher, it seems, advised him to incorporate his notes of travel as ordinary tourists do, with his main purpose, which was to ascertain the actual state of the Swiss religious bodies; but the latter has become so paramount a consideration that the former, even did they possess greater novelty than they do, would be held of small account. Pass we, therefore, at once to some of the *memorabilia* in the heart of Switzerland. When Calvin died Geneva was filled with lamentations, but "subsequent generations have taken care that if at this time too much honour was shewn to the dead, an ample compensation should be made for it by the utter oblivion or hatred into which the memory of Calvin has been allowed to pass. In Geneva this once honoured name is no longer a household word. In the pulpits of Geneva (with a few exceptions), the doctrines of Calvin are referred to only to be repudiated and scorned."

Dr. A. represents Romanism, Infidelity, and Protestantism, as predominating throughout the land; sectarian divisions perplex the rest:

"The professedly Romanist part of the population amounts to about 900,000. They are found chiefly in the more mountainous districts, and amongst the Helvetic and Italian tribes. The German and French Cantons are, for the most part, anti-Romanist, with the exception of Solothurn and Freyburg, in which Romanism predominates. In some of the Cantons, viz. Appenzell, Glarus, Thurgau, Argau, St. Gall, and the Grisons, the population is very much mixed; in some the predominance being in favour of the Romanist, in others of the Protestant element. Of these Catholic Cantons the religious aspect is by no means uniform. In Schaffhausen, and TESSIN, the religious system and profession are the same, but the manifestations of religious feeling among the people, and the tone and hue of religious action, are different. In the mountain districts Catholicism appears in much the same guise as it bore before the Reformation; it is the religion of an honest, untutored, and superstitious race, who receive it in all its integrity, submit to it with undisguised sincerity, and regard with horror all who would call it in question. In the Italian States there is more of astuteness, more of mere formalism, less depth of feeling and sincerity of devotion, but not less of bigotry or ignorance. In the French Cantons Catholicism appears under a more cosmopolitan guise; it is the religion of a people acquainted with letters, accustomed to the usages of cultivated society, apt to be assailed by argument directed against their faith, and consequently more versed in crafty devices and plausible reasonings. Among the mountains they believe and tremble; in the plains they believe and chicaner. With the former the hands and the voice are both Esau's; with the latter the hands are the hands of Esau, but the voice is the voice of Jacob. Whatever differences, however, may obtain between the different Catholic Cantons as compared with each other, there are certain points in which they all more or less resemble each other, as compared with their Protestant neighbours. Viewed as a whole, Catholic Switzerland is inferior to Protestant Switzerland in respect of popular education. There is no part of the country, indeed, where the people are entirely without the means of education; but in the purely Catholic Cantons the extent of these means is less than it is in the Protestant Cantons, whilst the quality of the education given is in every respect inferior.

"In one very important respect, however, the

Catholics of the Protestants the principal cause of their faith can be affirmed. Ex- sides; but, stated it, are ignorant truth, whilst trines of the spirit of in opinion vice, for their faith, practices, and apt to our length but even the betrays the surely a m tendency marks the I am far corrupt fo cannot be ferred to the abrogates fidelity wh or mocke It be ro Scottish C neral mo land have "a contin arises fro of the C procure is The in quences, related; i the In "With prevails any cor restants a which ar of the str their exi munity. terms th Switzerl two form lished so the othe nesses of inating German Vand, he unh pernicio ful and taire co has fou the lan scenes ger of majesty God; franc profess same for its in Ger the cl land.

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Catholics of Switzerland have the advantage over the Protestants; they are both better instructed in the principles of their religion, and have a sincerer faith in, and reverence for, that religion than can be affirmed of the Protestants in regard to theirs. Exceptions there are, doubtless, on both sides; but the general fact is, I believe, as I have stated it. Whilst multitudes of the Protestants are ignorant of the first principles of Christian truth, whilst by many of them the peculiar doctrines of the gospel are repudiated, and whilst a spirit of indifference as to diversities of religious opinion widely prevails amongst them, the Catholics are, for the most part, sincerely attached to their faith, well acquainted with its principles and practices, proud of avowing their devotion to it, and apt to carry their preference for it to the dangerous length of denouncing not only the sentiments, but even the persons, of all who reject it. If this betrays them into intolerance, it is, nevertheless, surely a more wholesome state of things than that tendency to the opposite extreme which too much marks the Protestants of Switzerland at present. I am far from thinking bigoted attachment to a corrupt form of Christianity a slight evil; but I cannot help regarding this as greatly to be preferred to that flippant indifference which practically abrogates religion altogether, or that hardened infidelity which makes religion a subject of contempt or mockery.*

Be it remembered that these are opinions of a Scottish Calvinistic divine; who adds, that in general morality the Romish population of Switzerland have the advantage over the Protestant. And "a continual source of disturbance in Switzerland arises from the supremacy of the Jesuits in certain of the Cantons, and their incessant attempts to procure influence in all."

The intrigues and movements, and their consequences, during the last three or four years are related; but one of the most extraordinary features is the infidelity, of which Dr. A. reports:

"With regard to the extent to which infidelity prevails in Switzerland, it is impossible to form any correct estimate. Infidels do not, like Protestants and Catholics, form themselves into bodies which are capable of coming under the cognisance of the statist, nor has any legislature yet recognised their existence as a distinct element in the community. I can therefore state only in general terms that the extent to which infidelity pervades Switzerland is very great. It exists there under two forms, the one borrowed from the more polished scepticism of the French wits and savans; the other partaking of the absurdities and grossnesses of Socialism. The former is found predominating in the French Cantons, the latter in the German; and in some, such as the Canton de Vaud, both forms prevail. The lengths to which the unhappy individuals who have embraced these pernicious doctrines go in asserting them is painful and horrible. The hideous exclamation of Voltaire concerning the Saviour, 'Ecrasez l'infame,' has found its echo among the infatuated mobs of the land of Calvin and Farel. Amidst the grandest scenes of creation, where, on every hand, the finger of God has inscribed the memorials of his majesty, the fool has been heard proclaiming 'No God;' and the air has been burdened with the frantic cry, 'Down with the good God.' Short of professed infidelity, but tending strongly in the same direction, and doubtless preparing the way for its adoption, is the Neologianism which, born in Germany, has been extensively introduced among the clergy and more educated classes of Switzerland. In Zürich, in Basle, in Berne, and partly

also in Neuchâtel, this pernicious system has prevailed. The appointment of such men as De Wette and Strauss to professorial chairs in the faculty of theology, after even Germany had cast them out, shews how little regard the authorities in Basle and Zürich, by whom they were appointed, had for evangelical truth, or even for the permanency of Christianity under any shape as a religion of divine revelation. Something hopeful as to the state of religious feeling among the populace of Zürich might be inferred from their opposition to the appointment of Strauss—an opposition so firm and serious, that it led ultimately to his removal (with a pension) from the chair to which he had been named, were it not that there is reason to fear that this opposition had its source rather in political partisanship than in any deep-rooted regard for Christianity."

We cannot enter into the details of the radical government's interferences with the church, and the various results of their various measures; in some cases making the establishment merely subservient to the civil power, in others separating them, and in others nearly putting down the clerical order altogether. What might be expected by religion our preceding quotation will shew, and the following is no less significant:

"The leader of the revolution in this Canton (Vaud) is Druey, the head of the Socialists in Switzerland; and a flag with this blasphemous inscription was carried through the streets of Lausanne, 'Mort à ceux qui ont des domestiques! Mort à la religion! Mort à . . . ' (Death to those who have servants! No religion! No God!)—Correspondent of the *Continental Echo*, April 1845, p. 127. A friend, resident in the Canton de Vaud, informed the writer, that this M. Druey recently was seen in the streets of Lausanne in a great passion exclaiming, 'The worst of all aristocracies is that of morality! Down with all aristocrats of morality!' The occasion of these half-mad cries was, that a friend of M. Druey had been blackballed by a club of gentlemen in Lausanne, on the ground that he was a man of flagitious character. So much for the liberal and enlightened principles which Socialism dictates, and by which, as Socialists teach, the world is to be regenerated and harmonised!"

Having pointed public notice to this small volume, on account of its present applicability to transactions of great consequence, and the influence of which cannot be confined to Switzerland, we shall not so far deviate from our known system as to enter upon polemical discussions. We therefore close our paper with two very short statements of the author, on which we offer not one word of comment:

"The present dissenters of Switzerland had their rise in Geneva. Their origin is to be traced, not to any speculative objections to national establishments of religion as such, nor to any feelings of repugnance to certain abuses which had grown up in the administration of the national church of the Canton where they first appeared, but to the utter lack of the means of spiritual life, caused by the total abandonment of evangelical doctrine by the Genevese pastors. . . . 'Your Switzerland,' said one of the great potentates of Europe, lately, to a distinguished clergyman of that country, 'your Switzerland is very sick, and as she cannot cure herself, some of us who can will be forced to undertake her case.' Ah! if the powers of Europe come to her cure, it will be by the cautery and the sword that they will attempt to heal her."

PHYSICAL SCIENCE.

On the Correlation of Physical Forces. By W. R. Grove, Esq., M.A., F.R.S., Barrister-at-Law. London, S. Highley.

This sketch is a *resumé* of Mr. Grove's views of physical science, explained and illustrated in his official courses of lectures at the London Institution, published in compliance with the wishes of the proprietors. The progress of Mr. Grove's

scientific reputation has been so rapid and yet so widely spread, that it is unnecessary for us to recommend his views to the consideration of investigators. At home, his claims to prominent position in the councils of science have been readily admitted and realised, and abroad his name and opinions are held in honour and appreciated. The discovery of the nitric-acid battery, of the gas battery, and recently (indeed, not yet before the public in the author's own words and details, owing to delays consequent upon the present constitution and practice of the Royal Society) of the decomposition of water by heat, have advanced the name of Grove to this exalted position, and they are introductions of the highest stamp to any ideas in regard to physical science that he may set forth.

The subject of the lectures, namely the relation of the affections of matter, generally called the imponderables, to each other and to matter, has been already given fully in our columns (*Lit. Gaz.* No. 1408, Jan. 1844); but as our subscribers have so much increased with our enlarged series and reduced price, it is right that we should at least state the object of the work before us. And this we cannot do more concisely or more clearly than in the author's own words. He says: "The position which I seek to establish in this essay is, that the various imponderable agencies, or the affections of matter which constitute the main objects of experimental physics, viz. Heat, Light, Electricity, Magnetism, Chemical Affinity and Motion, are all Correlative, or have a reciprocal dependence. That neither, taken abstractedly, can be said to be the essential or proximate cause of the others, but that either may, as a force, produce or be convertible into the other; thus heat may mediate or immediately produce electricity—electricity may produce heat; and so of the rest."

As a sample of the general treatment of the subject, and at the same time as an exposition of Mr. Grove's prescience in regard to the correlation of physical forces, we conclude with the following brief quotations:

"The great problem which remains to be solved, in regard to the correlation of physical forces, is, the establishment of their equivalent of power, or their measurable relation to a given standard. Viewed in their static relations, or in the conditions requisite for producing equilibrium or quantitative equality of force, a remarkable relation between chemical affinity and heat, is that discovered in many simple bodies by Dulong and Petit, and extended to compounds by Neumann and Avogadro: their researches have shewn that the specific heats of certain substances, when multiplied by their chemical equivalents, give a constant quantity as product; or in other words, that the combining weights of such substances are those weights which require equal accessions or abstractions of heat, equally to raise or lower their temperature. To put the proposition more in accordance with the view we have taken of the nature of heat: each body has a power of communicating or receiving molecular repulsive power, exactly equal, weight for weight, to its chemical or combining power; for instance, the equivalent of lead is 104, of zinc 32, or in round numbers as 3 to 1; these numbers are therefore inversely the exponents of their chemical power, three times as much lead as zinc being required to saturate the same quantity of an acid or substance combining with it; but their power of communicating or abstracting heat, or repulsive power, is precisely the same; for three times as much lead as zinc is required to produce the same amount of expansion or contraction in a given quantity of a third substance, say water. Again, a great number of bodies chemically combine in equal volumes, i.e. in the ratios of their specific gravities; but the specific gravities represent the attractive powers of the substance, or are the numerical exponents of the forces tending to produce motion in masses of matter towards each other, while the chemical equivalents are the exponents of the affinities or tendencies of the molecules of

* "That the democrats of Uri and Schwytz should have taken up arms in support of the aristocrats of Lucerne, in the cause of Romanist supremacy; and that the Protestant clergy of Vaud should have lent their influence to the side of Jesuit ascendancy in Valais (as was done in both cases last year), can be accounted for only on the principle, that among the Romanists religion is dearer than politics, whilst among the Protestants politics are dearer than religion."

dissimilar substances to combine, and saturate each other; consequently, here we have an inverse relation between these two modes of force, gravitation, and affinity. Were the above relations extended into an universal law, we should have the same numerical expression for the three forces of heat, gravity, and affinity; and as electricity and magnetism are quantitatively related to them, we should have a similar expression for these forces; but, at present, the bodies in which this parity of force has been discovered, though in themselves numerous, are small compared with the exceptions, and therefore this point can only be indicated as promising a generalisation, should subsequent researches after our knowledge as to the elements and equivalents of matter. With regard to what may be called dynamic equivalents, *i.e.* the definite relation to time of the action of these varied forces upon equivalents of matter, the difficulty of establishing them is still greater. If the proposition which I stated at the commencement of this paper be correct, that motion may be subdivided or changed in character, so as to become heat, electricity, &c.; it ought to follow, that when we collect the dissipated and changed forces, and reconvert them, the initial motion, affecting the same amount of matter with the same velocity, should be reproduced, and so of the changes in matter produced by the other forces; but the difficulties of proving the truth of this by experiment will, in many cases, be all but insuperable: we cannot imprison motion as we can matter, though we may to some extent restrain its direction. Electricity promises us the best means of effecting this, but little has hitherto been done in carrying it out. * * *

"It is a great assistance in such investigations to be intimately convinced that no physical phenomenon can stand alone; each is inevitably connected with anterior changes, and as inevitably productive of consequential changes, each with the other, and all with time and space; and, either in tracing back these antecedents, or following up their consequents, many new phenomena will be discovered, and many existing phenomena, hitherto believed distinct, will be connected and explained; explanation is, indeed, only relation to something more familiar, not more known, *i.e.* known as to causative or creative agencies: in all phenomena, the more closely they are investigated, the more are we convinced that, humanly speaking, neither matter nor force can be created, and that an essential cause is unattainable.—Causation is the will, Creation the act, of God.

ANDERSEN'S POET'S BAZAAR.

[Second notice: conclusion.]

Jews, when he meets with them, seldom get a good word from the author; whilst for popular musicians, such as Liszt, Thalberg, and Mendelssohn, or eminent dramatic performers, his admiration amounts to wild enthusiasm. "Only a Fiddler" is to be a god, for the world to worship, with him. The two pianists we have named, in return supply him with a smile:

"There is a street in Rome which is called Via Purificazione; but we cannot say of it that is purified. It is an up and down sort of place; cabbage-stalks and old broken pots lie strewn round about; the smoke rolls out of the door of the *osteria*, and signora opposite—nay, I cannot help it, but it is true—signora opposite shakes her sheets out of the window every morning. In this street there are generally many strangers; but this year most of them remained at Naples and Florence, for fear of the fever and pestilential sickness that was in Rome. I lived quite alone in a large house, not even the host or hostess slept there at night. It was a large, cold house, with a little wet garden, in which there were only a row of peas and a half-blown gilliflower; yet in the neighbouring gardens, which were at a higher elevation, stood blooming hedge-rows with monthly roses, and trees full of yellow citrons. The latter

bore the continual rain well; but the roses, on the contrary, appeared as if they had lain for a week in the sea. The evenings were so lonesome in the cold large rooms: the black chimney yawned between the windows, and out-of-doors were rain and drizzle. All the doors were well secured with locks and iron bars; but of what use were they? The wind whistled and screeched through the crevices in the doors; the few sticks in the chimney blazed up, but they did not throw any warmth into the room; the cold stone floor, the raw walls, and the high ceiling, seemed only to be adapted for the summer season. If I would make myself comfortable, I was obliged to put on my fur-lined travelling-boots, surtout, cloak, and fur cap; yes, then it was well enough! It is true, that side which was turned towards the fire-place was half roasted; but in this world one must know how to change sides, and so I turned, like a sun-flower.

"The evenings were somewhat long, but then my teeth began to give some nervous concerts, and it was remarkable how they improved in dexterity. A real Danish toothache is not to be compared to an Italian one. Pain played on the keys of the teeth, as if it were a Liszt or a Thalberg. Sometimes it rumbled in the foreground, and then anon in the background, as when two martial bands answer each other; whilst a large front tooth sang the prima donna's part with all the trills, roulades, and cadences of torture. There was such harmony and power in the whole, that I at last felt no longer like a human being! From an evening it slid into a night concert; and it was during such a one, whilst the windows shook with the storm, and the rain poured down without, that I cast a half melancholy look at the night lamp. My writing materials stood close by it, and I saw quite distinctly that the pen danced over the white paper, as if led by an invisible hand; but it was not so, it did it of its own accord. It wrote after dictation: and who dictated? Yes, it sounds strange; but it is true. I say it, and you will believe me, it was my boots, my old Copenhagen boots, which, because they were soaked through with the rain, had earned a place in the chimney by the red embers. If I suffered from toothache, they also suffered from waterache: they dictated their own biography, and this, I think, will throw a light on the Italian winter of 1840-41. The boots said: 'We are two brothers, right boot and left boot. Our first remembrance is, that we were well rubbed in with wax, and then extremely well brushed up and polished. I could see myself in my brother, and he could see himself in me; and we saw that we were one body, a sort of Castor and Pollux, a species of Siamese twins, whom fate had determined should live and die, exist and not exist, with each other. We were both born in Copenhagen. The shoemaker's boy carried us in his hand forth into the world, and the first glimpse awakened sweet but false expectations about our destination. He to whom we were consigned immediately pulled us by the ears till we closed round his legs, and then he went down the stairs with us. We creaked with joy. It rained outside, but we still creaked; but only the first day. Alas! how much wet there is to get through in this world! We were not born to be waterproof boots, and therefore did not feel ourselves happy. No brush gave us the lustre of our youth; this lustre we possessed when the shoemaker's boy carried us in his hand through the streets; who can therefore depict our happiness when we one morning heard that we were to travel abroad,—yes, to Italy, that sunny, warm land, where we should tread on marble and classic ground, drink in the warm sunbeams, and surely regain our youthful lustre? We travelled. During the longest routes we slept in the portmanteau and dreamed of the warm lands. In the towns, on the contrary, we looked well about us; but it was wet and raw as in Denmark. Our soles got a gangrene; they were obliged to be parted from the body in Munich, and we found ourselves with new soles in-

stead; but they were made as well as if they had been born with us. 'Were we but over the Alps,' we sighed; 'it is fine and mild there.' And we got over the Alps, but it was *not* fine and mild there! it rained and it blew; and if we happened now and then to tread on marble, it was so icy cold that the marble drew the cold perspiration out of our soles, and the damp traces of them remained where we had trodden. It was quite lively in the evening when the waiter numbered all the boots and shoes in the hotel; we were placed in a row amongst these foreign comrades, and heard from them about the places they came from. There was a pair of beautiful red morocco bodies with black feet (I think it was in Bologna), and they told us about the warm summer in Rome and Naples; they told us about their climbing up Vesuvius, where the feet were burnt off them by the subterranean heat; alas! we almost desired to die in such a manner. 'Were we but over the Apennines! were we but in Rome!'—and we went there! But now we have grovelled in rain and sludge, week after week! But one must see all things, we suppose; and there will never be an end either of curiosities or pouring rain! Not a warm ray has refreshed us; the cold wind has gambolled around us! O Rome, Rome! to-night, for the first time, we will drink warmth from the blessed chimney, and we will drink till we burn! The upper leathers are all gone, and our bodies are giving way; they will burst too! But before we die this happy death, we wish this our history to be noted down, and our dead bodies brought to Berlin, to rest with him who has had courage and manliness enough to depict '*Italian wie es ist!*' to the truth-loving Nicolai." And having said thus much, the boots fell together. It was quite still; my night lamp went out; I dozed a little, and when I awoke in the morning I thought it was a dream: but I looked into the chimney; the boots were quite shrunk up, they stood like mummies standing amid the cold ashes. I looked at the paper as it lay by my lamp; it was a grey paper full of ink-spots; the pen had really passed over it, but the words had all run into each other, for the pen had written the boots' memoirs on grey paper. I noted down what I still remembered; and the reader will recollect that it is not I, but my boots, who cry 'Woe! to la bella Italia.'

We have copied all this chapter, as it is a fair specimen of the Bazaar; and we do not propose to do more than make a few short extracts to illustrate the Grecian and Asia Minor divisions. Greece, of course, was more suggestive of poetry than any other region, and we have a number of episodes springing out of its classic and romantic scenes. For instance, 'A Rose from Homer's grave,' which runs thus:

"The nightingale's love for the rose is celebrated in all Oriental songs. The winged singer brings a serenade to his odorous flower in the silent, starry night. I saw a blooming hedge of roses, not far from Smyrna, under the tall plantains where the merchant drives his loaded camels, proudly stretching their long necks, and treading clumsily on the ground, which is holy; the wild doves flew amongst the high branches of the trees, and the dove's wings shone, as a ray of sunlight glided over them, so that the wings looked like mother-of-pearl. On the rose-hedge one flower was the first amongst them all, and to this the nightingale sang his sorrowful love-tale. But the rose was silent. Not a dew-drop lay, like the tear of pity, on its leaves; it was bent with its stem over some large stones. 'Here rests the world's greatest poet!' said the rose, 'I will shed my perfume over his grave! I will strew my leaves on it when the storm tears them off! The Iliad's singer became earth in this earth in which I germinated, and from whence I sprang! I, a rose from Homer's grave, am too holy to bloom for the poor nightingale!' And the nightingale sang itself to death. The camel-driver came with his loaded camels and his black slaves. His little boy found the dead bird. He buried the little

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warbler in the great Homer's grave, and the rose shivered in the blast. The evening came, the rose folded its leaves closer, and dreamt that there was a beautiful sunlit day. A crowd of strange men came; they were Franks. They had made a pilgrimage to Homer's grave. Amongst the strangers was a poet from the North, from the home of mists and the northern lights. He broke the rose off its stem, pressed it fast in a book, and took it with him to another quarter of the globe, to his distant fatherland. And the rose withered with grief, and lay in the narrow book which he opened in his home, saying, 'Here is a rose from Homer's grave!' Yes, that is what the flower dreamed, and it awoke, and trembled in the wind. A dew-drop fell from its leaves on the songster's grave. And the sun arose, and the flower was more beautiful than before. The day was warm; the rose was in its own warm Asia. Then footsteps were heard; there came strange Franks, as the rose had seen them in its dream, and amongst the strangers was a poet from the North. He broke the rose off, pressed a kiss on its fresh lips, and took it with him to the home of mists and the northern lights. The remains of the flower now rest, like a mummy, in its lid; and, as in its dream, it hears him open the book and say, 'Here is a rose from Homer's grave.'

'Friendship's Covenant,' is another effusion, and more characteristic of Greece; but we quit it for one less imaginative and no less characteristic of the present day, 'A storm in the Archipelago.'

"I rowed out early in the morning from the harbour of Syros, to the French war-steamer, Rhameses, which came from Marseilles, and had had a terribly stormy voyage over the Mediterranean. The storm had not yet ceased. The wind whistled in the shrouds, and the billows lashed the sides of the vessel. When I reached the vessel, there was a screaming and shouting of Greek females, Jews and Jewesses, who were to go by it to Smyrna. Before they were permitted to go on board, every one of them was obliged to shew his or her ticket; but it was either knotted up in a handkerchief, or given to a relation in another boat; so that they were in dreadful perplexity; and the sailor who stood guard by the gangway raised his halberd against every one that did not directly shew the ticket. A stout Greek female, in particular, bawled most horribly. The poor miserable deck-passengers were driven to a place set apart for them on the vessel, and a watch was kept over them. The discipline appeared very strict on board the Rhameses. We sailed directly in under the coast of Tenos, which appeared inhabited and fruitful. One village lay close to the other. One of them was of considerable size, with a pretty church. Round about were vineyards and cultivated fields. Three chains of mountains arose one behind the other. We passed so near to the rocky walls that I thought I felt the breakers against the ship. The sea ran stronger and stronger; it was as if the storm darted out of the mountains on Tenos. Already, the waves sprang on the ship's sides; the poor deck-passengers were obliged to creep up towards the chimney; by degrees they approached nearer and nearer to the flue. No one prevented them now; every sailor had something else to do. The sails were hoisted, but they were hauled down again directly; the boatswain's whistle sounded; and there was a shouting, a noise, a sea-sickness, a wailing that every moment increased. I continued for some time on deck, though the ship several times darted down the long and large billows like a sledge on a Russian mountain. The Greek women threw their arms about each others' necks, and howled; the children lay as if half dead along the deck; and the sea washed over the whole ship, so that every one was soaked with the salt water. All this time the sea-gulls flew in flocks around us; they looked like the winged hour-glass of invisible death; every plank in the ship creaked; we rushed, as it were, from the stars into the deep, and again up to the stars. At length, I got into

my hammock. Every thing rattled; every thing creaked. I heard the boatswain's whistle, the shutters that were closed, the bars that broke, the sea that struck against the ship, so that it stopped, and all its timbers groaned. There was one near me who called on the Madonna and all the saints! Another swore! I felt certain that we must perish; and when I thought more steadfastly of my approaching fate, I felt myself easier. My thoughts were with all my dear friends in Denmark. 'How much is there not done for me, and how little have I done!' This was the sorrow that pressed on my heart. I thought of my friends. 'God, do thou bless and comfort them!' was my silent prayer. Let me work out in another world what I did not effect here! All that they valued in me was thine! Thou hast given me all! 'Thy will be done!' and I closed my eyes! The storm raged over the sea; the ship quivered like a sparrow in a whirlwind; but I slept—slept from bodily exhaustion, and at a good angel's intercession. When I awoke, I certainly heard the strokes of the waves against the vessel; but the ship itself glided quietly as a sailing swan. We were under lee—we were in the bay of Smyrna; and I, as well as the Greek women, had assuredly expected to awake in another world; and so, in a certain sense, I did. I stood on deck, and before me lay another world; the coast of Asia."

We do not gather much new of Constantinople; and indeed throughout we may remark, that the novelty is more in manner than in travelling matter. The charm is in the writer, not in the sights or localities; and with an example of this we conclude our notice of a book which has much delighted us.

"The passage down the Elbe is soon ended; it is the last evening! How grey, how cold! The swallows and martins fly across the river to their nests under the house-roofs and their holes in the declivities. The swallow comes from the warm lands in the spring-time; instinct drives it towards the North; it leads it through the airy desert to its nest. By the yellow, rolling river with the poor green shores, stands a small house with a blooming elder-bush. 'There I must go!' twitters the swallow. 'Desire draws me thither, from the tall palm and the shady platanus.' The elder-bush exhales such sweet fragrance! The old grandmother sits on the threshold, and looks at the ships; a little girl sits on her stool, and amuses herself with the flowers on grandmother's gown. Poor swallow! thou comest again! The flowering elder is cut down; the old grandmother is in her grave; the little girl is out in the world with strangers. The house itself, where thou build thy nest, is smartened up and ornamented; the new owner will not permit any swallow's nests.—Alas! how changed!"

"I have never known home-sickness, unless when the heart has been filled with a singular love on thinking of the dear friends at home, an endless pleasure, which pictures forth the moment that we see them again, for the first time, in the well-known circle. Then the picture comes forth so life-like, that tears come into the eyes; the heart melts, and must forcibly tear itself away from such thoughts! Is this home-sickness? Yes! Then I also know it! The first moment of arrival at home is, however, the bouquet of the whole voyage!"

British Consuls Abroad, &c. By Robert Fynn, Esq., Barrister-at-Law. Pp. 328. London, E. Wilson.

SEVERAL years' roaming having introduced Mr. Fynn to nearly every British consulate in Europe and the Levant, and made known to him a very general demand for a treatise relative to the duties and jurisdiction of the office, he has beneficially employed his leisure time, since his return home, in the composition of this volume, which must be extremely useful to the mercantile world. In it he copies the government instructions to consuls, and in detail points out their duties and

powers. The whole system is made quite plain, and the mode of transacting every kind of business is clearly described. Mr. F. greatly prefers purely official consuls to those who are engaged in trade; but it seems that the latter are now more numerously employed than till within the last few years.

The Moral Aspects of Medical Life. Consisting of the Akesios of Prof. Marx, with Biographical Notes and Illustrative Remarks by J. Mackness, M.D. Pp. 348. London, J. Churchill.

THIS is a volume for the library of every medical professor. The high lessons of honour it inculcates, the rules and etiquette of respectable practice it lays down, and the hundred useful hints and pieces of advice it exhibits, are well worthy the attention of physician, surgeon, apothecary, chemist, and general practitioner. The whole prescription is valuable; and with all our respect and esteem for the profession, which we deem to be the most liberal in existence, we would say that the perusal of this work, specifying and enlarging on its noble and beneficent duties, could not do less than elevate even the most exact, upright, conscientious, and generous.

A Selection from Lord Chesterfield's Letters to his Son on Education, &c. By J. Brasseur, Professor of the French Language, at King's Coll. London. Pp. 194. London, Barbès and Lowell.

THIS is a very meritorious design, and has been carried into effect in a very meritorious manner. That in the midst of much valuable advice, both in regard to sterling qualifications and accomplishments, there are many points which set an undue weight upon frivolity, and some which palliate if they do not encourage vice, in Chesterfield's Letters, must be conceded on all hands; and, therefore, to weed this garden for the recreation and instruction of youth, remove the idle and noxious, and preserve only the beautiful and fruitful, was a task worthy of a scholastic teacher. Mr. Brasseur has exercised good taste and sound discretion in performing it, and converted a dangerous into a useful book. The change of manners is no doubt great since Chesterfield wrote, but no change can alter the keenness and force of his observations on life. Human nature will ever remain subject to remarks so penetrating as his, and good society will ever observe many of the rules laid down by him. Let us not, then, fancy them antiquated and inapplicable to our day and manners. We cordially recommend Mr. Brasseur's volume.

The Early Life of Dante Alighieri, together with the Original in parallel Pages. By Joseph Garrow, Esq., A.M. Pp. 158. Florence, Le Monnier, 1846.

BRINGS us acquainted with the *Vita Nuova*, a work attributed to the youth of Dante, of a strange allegorical and mystical nature. The mixture of visionary and real defies our analysis; but the poems, with the accounts of their origin and intents, and descriptions of their elements and execution, together with the prose narrative, so full of shadowy meaning, on which only glimpses of light are permitted to fall, will render the volume peculiarly acceptable to readers of Italian, and, as a literary curiosity, welcome to all.

The Parlour Novelist. Vols. VIII. and IX. Bel-fast, Simms and McIntyre; London, Orr.

THESE volumes present the Irish readers with Dumas's *Count of Monte Christo*, which has already been clothed in several sorts of English dress. The cheaper the garb we should say the more to be deprecated.

A Technological Dictionary, &c. By W. M. Buchanan. Pp. 755. London, Tegg; Glasgow, Griffin; Dublin, Cumming and Ferguson.

A CHEAP form of a useful design, and more than ever needed in consequence of the perpetual and vast increase of technical terms. Mr. Buchanan appears to have taken pains with his compilation as far as it goes, and therefore as far as it goes it will supply, in general accurately, the information for which it may be consulted.

ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Literary Gazette.

NIMRUD, KHORSABAD, AND NINEVEH.

MY DEAR SIR,—In the *Literary Gazette* of the 3d inst. there was a communication from Constantinople respecting Mr. Layard's archaeological researches, which has been followed up by an expanded communication dated as from the same place, and inserted in the *Athenæum* of the 10th, dilating on the same particulars: both which communications are of a character to justify a few remarks. It appears from your correspondent that Major Rawlinson considers Nimrud to be the ancient Nineveh, and this is repeated by the second commentator, who further adds that Mr. Layard inclines to the same opinion. Now any opinion coming from such high quarters is not only deserving of every confidence, but without knowing more of the grounds upon which it is founded, is unsunderable. Those grounds, however, as far as they are pointed out by the latter writer, are by no means satisfactory. He starts by admitting the identity of Nimrud with the Larissa of Xenophon, so far coinciding with previous labours; and it is curious that it did not strike him, that if the ruins in question were those of ancient Nineveh, why Xenophon did not say so instead of calling the place Larissa. Bochart's explanation of this name is, that the Greeks having asked the name of the city were answered Al Resen, the article being prefixed, and that of this they made Larissa. The correspondent to the *Athenæum* says, that the city called Larissa by Xenophon has been identified with Resen; "but on what grounds it would be hard to say: though probably from the fact, that in the Samaritan version of the Pentateuch Resen is called Lachissa." Now Bochart's suggestion is a very reasonable one, and it is thus found to be supported by one version of the Pentateuch, by the character of the ruins—essentially Assyrian, and by the site, which, supposing Nineveh to have been in the hitherto generally admitted position, and Calah to have been, where Major Rawlinson places it, at Sar Pulî Zobab, would have answered the scriptural desideratum of being between Nineveh and Calah (Genesis x. 12). I do not mean to advance this negative evidence as positive, on the contrary, I have a feeling that if Nimrud was the scriptural Resen, that two such great cities as Resen and Nineveh were wonderfully near to one another (only sixteen miles apart); but the evidence, such as it is, is more favourable to the identification than otherwise, and the "hard to say what grounds" are in reality more numerous than those hitherto published of an opposite character. Upon this subject old Cellarius says: "*De Nino res certa—de Resen, probabilis*;" and in Dr. Kitto's *Biblical Cyclopedia* it says, generally, that biblical geographers have been disposed to follow Bochart.

But the *de Nino res certa*, it appears, must also be given up. The city of Ninus—without entering into the discussion of the identity of Ninus and Nimrod—the city bearing the name of Ninus was suddenly transferred two years ago from its olden and accepted site to Khorsabad,* situated sixteen miles to the north-east of Mosul; and it has now been removed sixteen miles south, a little west, of the same city: so that we have now three Ninevehs, two of which are thirty miles apart. The extent of ruin at Nimrud will bear comparison with what exists at Nineveh; that at Khorsabad will not. I did every thing I could, in connexion with the press and as an honorary secretary of the Syro-Egyptian Society, to prevent this injudicious con-

* I ventured on a former occasion to give the etymology of Khor-sabad, or Hor-sabad, "the town in the marsh," as the ruins are actually circumstanced; and such compounds of two languages are not uncommon, as in Boyasabad, dye-town, &c. But it appears from a letter of Mr. Layard's to the *Malta Times* that the real name of the place is Khorru-abad, "the abode of Khorsroes," vulgo, Khorsabad. This would appear to indicate that it had some celebrity as late as in the time of the Sasanian dynasty.

fusion of terms; but it was no use—each new bulletin from Khorsabad was dated as from Nineveh; and now we have an opposition Nineveh at Nimrud, the confusion will be greater than ever. There will be a native Nineveh, a French Nineveh, and an English Nineveh.

The correspondent alluded to says truly enough, "Great weight must be attached throughout the East to traditions, especially when referring to geographical positions." And then he goes on to add, that all the traditions of that country refer to Nimrud as the primitive city of Assyria, and its ancient capital; assigning its foundation to Nimrod and his Kaiyah (or lieutenant) Ashevi: which we are ready to admit. The ruins intimate a primitive Assyrian city; and it may have been an ancient capital, and yet not the biblical and historical Nineveh: tradition leaves that untouched.

As far, indeed, as tradition goes, there is one unanimous concession, that the vast extent of ruin on the left bank of the Tigris, opposite to Mosul, where is the apocryphal tomb of Jonah, is the site of the city of Ninus. That is the Nuniyah of the Chaldeans, and the Eski Nineveh, or old Nineveh, of the Turks. I have lived several months at Mosul, and never heard another site for Nineveh suggested. It is a tradition of such consistency as to have been admitted by every single traveller, from the days of Benjamin of Tudela and Tavernier to those of Rich and Neibuhr. The Oriental geographers admit the identity; and the Chaldeans of Mosul still call themselves residents of Ashur, and write it so in their great mss. bibles, which are handed down from priest to priest, and even from church to church. Rennell and D'Anville admit this identification, which would also result from the notices of antiquity. Herodotus mentions Ninus in two places (i. cap. 193, and ii. cap. 150) as being on the Tigris; whereas had Ninus been the same as Nimrud, which is at the junction of the great Zab and the Tigris, the circumstance would hardly have been passed over by all antiquity. Pliny (vi. 13) repeats the same thing; and in Tacitus's time, as in that of Abu-l-faraj and Bar Hebraeus, there was a castle at the site.

Xenophon says of Larissa that it was a city of the Medes, and that it was destroyed by the Persians. This would appear to allude to the conquests of Cyrus, B.C. 560. Nineveh, on the contrary, after its overthrow by Arbaces, fell irrecoverably, if we are to give credit to Herodotus (i. 106), beneath the united force of Nabopolassar of Babylon and Cyaxares king of the Medes. Nimrud would appear from this rather to have been a capital in the time of the Medes, than of the first Assyrian empire. Archaeological researches will probably throw much light upon this question. That it was the seat of royalty at that time there can, however, be little doubt; since Xenophon relates that Media, the king's consort, took refuge at Mes-Pylæ, apparently a castle that succeeded to Nineveh when the Medes were deprived of their command in Assyria by the Persians. Mes-Pylæ is, according to Rennell, Meso-Pulai, "the middle-gate strait or pass;" in allusion, no doubt, to the pass of the river at Mosul.

I, however, by no means address these few remarks to you as in any respect conclusive. My object is that, having all last year to fight against one hasty interpretation, we should not this year have to combat with two, without stronger reasons than have as yet been given to the public. The whole of the country around the native Nineveh is covered with mounds of ruin. There is Tell Kaif, twelve miles north of Nineveh, an undoubted site of antiquity, Tell Afar, Yarmujah, the Tellul-Sakik, "mound of the victor," at Hammam Ali, the mound at Kal'ah Sherkat, that at Eski Mosul, Tel Ais-Kuf, Tel Ajus, and numerous others, besides the Koyunjuk and Nebbi Yunus in Nineveh itself, which are all full of promise to archaeological explorations. In fact, these isolated mounds of ruin arise, as at Khorsabad, every here and there

out of the rich and fertile plain of Aturia. We should get on very slowly if we made a Nineveh of each of these.

That Mr. Layard will be supported and freely assisted by Government in his most important explorations, I hope, for the sake of national honour, there cannot be a moment's doubt. A sufficiently humiliating mistake has already been made at Mosul. Two travellers were, some years back, sent to the Chaldeans of Assyria: one was a person fond of knowledge, and sufficiently zealous to have prosecuted learned inquiries, had he remained in the country; the other was a native, more partial to the sale of prints and kerchiefs. The tradesman was appointed British consul at Mosul, the philosopher recalled. France acted differently. Hearing that an English consul had been appointed in the heart of Assyrian antiquities, they immediately sent thither M. Botta, and the result is before the world. Let us not now make the evil worse by incapacitating Mr. Layard in his zealous and able researches. The Tigris is there within a stone's throw to carry all his discoveries to England; so if it is possible to touch Government by an appeal to the *quid pro quo*, these researches cannot fail to furnish one day to the British Museum fully sufficient to warrant some slight present outlay. Had not Sir Stratford Canning left Constantinople, there would no doubt have been no necessity for an old friend of Mr. Layard's backing the appeal made in his behalf, and which every friend to antiquarian research would gladly reinforce. Yours very sincerely,

W. FRANCIS AINSWORTH.

ARTS AND SCIENCES.

GUN-COTTON, AND THE MODE OF PREPARING IT.

PROFESSOR SCHÖNBEIN has been experimenting with his explosive powers in mines in Wales; and we hear with tremendous effect, one ounce of the cotton proving equal to a pound of gunpowder. We had previously heard from him that in trying the force of his invention in Germany, on some thick and strong ancient walls, he had riven them to pieces far beyond the extent he anticipated. By the by, some very grave considerations present themselves in connexion with this fearful new combustible. It is all very well to joke about bustles and sparks; but when a handful of cotton might produce so much destruction and is so portable, it is not easy to foresee what consequences may ensue from its becoming a marketable commodity.

Has Prof. Schönbein inadvertently disclosed the secret of his discovery, or are the several simultaneous announcements of fulminating or explosive matters, wool or cotton, another instance of many minds working to the same end and arriving nearly together at the like result? We are inclined to affirm the latter. How frequently of late have we had proofs of independent discovery in different countries of the same fact at the same time. A few years' retrospect supplies the anaglyphograph, Bates in England, Colles in France; photography, Daguerre in France, and Talbot in England; the electrotype, Spencer in England, and Jacobi in Russia, &c. &c. Recently, the new planet, Leverrier and Galle, and Adams and Challis; and now for the gun-cotton, Schönbein of Basle, the English chemist's proposal to the captain of the *Excellent* (*Lit. Gaz.* No. 1548), M. Morel and M. Chodsko in Paris, and Dr. Otto in Brunswick (Hanover). The inventors in Paris have exhibited all the effects that have been obtained with Schönbein's gun-cotton; but the latter has not been announced as possessing a fulminating property. The fulminating cotton of Morel and the cotton-

* "You can imagine," says he, "how mortifying it must be to Mr. Layard to find, after a year's indefatigable exertions, crowned, too, with such brilliant results, that nothing has been done by the British Government to mark its interest in his labours. For any thing he can know to the contrary, his civilised countrymen sympathise with his pursuits just as little as the Turks themselves."

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powder of Chodsko explode by blows of a hammer, but only on an anvil, not on wood, for instance. This fact is not proof of their invention being a fulminating material, but only of combustion at the temperature produced by concussion. Schönbein's cotton ignites at a much lower temperature than gunpowder. The exploding cotton of Dr. Otto, too, is fired by blows with hammer and anvil. All, however, produce similar results, and, in all probability, are similarly prepared. Dr. Otto only has disclosed his method of preparation, and his exploding cotton is common well-cleaned cotton, dipped for about half a minute in highly concentrated nitric acid (ten parts of dried saltpetre and six of oil of vitriol distilled) and then instantly put into water, which should be frequently changed. After thoroughly drying and separating all the knotted parts, the exploding cotton is ready for use.

We have pointed out a few simultaneous discoveries, but the instances we have mentioned are, after all, chiefly applications of known or suggested facts. We do not trace the like generality in the announcement of more abstruse or of, if we may so call them, normal discoveries. Newton, Galvani, Dalton, had no rivals. Nor has Oersted for electro-magnetism, Faraday in magneto-electricity, or Faraday (although, curiously, almost forestalled by Becquerel) in universal magnetism, nor Grove in the decomposition of water by heat alone. There are, undoubtedly, two distinct classes of discoveries—original thinkers, and clever, industrious, clear-headed workers; both most valuable, but the latter most numerous.

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION: SOUTHAMPTON.

TUESDAY.

SECTION A.—(Mathematical and Physical Science.)

1. Stratford (Lieut.), report on the publication of the Catalogues of Le Land and De Le Calé.
2. Matteucci (M.), summary of his researches in electro-physiology.
3. Bullar (Dr. J.) on electro-physiology.
4. Wartmann (Prof.), account of some new experiments with electro-magnets.
5. Oersted (M.) on the deviation of falling bodies from the perpendicular.
6. Petre (W.), magnetic investigations.
7. Sorsby (Rev. Dr.) on the phenomena of magnetism in steel and iron.
8. Green (Dr.) on a new equatorial mounting for a telescope.
9. Dent (E.) on a new portable azimuth compass.
10. Lawson (H.) on a new dark glass eye-piece, and a new method of contracting the aperture of the object-glass.
11. Svanberg (Prof.) on a new electrical multiplying condenser.
12. Ronalds (Mr. F.), report on the meteorological observations at Kew, with an account of the photographic self-registering apparatus.
13. Wartmann (Prof.) on some meteorological phenomena.
14. Banks (Dr.) on a new anemometer.
15. Mayes (Sergeant 17th Regt.), meteorological observations at Aden and at Bombay, communicated by the Marquis of Northampton.

2. Prof. Matteucci submitted a *résumé* of his latest researches in electro-physiology. In the first place, he described the experiments which prove that the development of electricity in living animals is a phenomenon peculiar to all organic tissues, and principally to muscular fibres, and that it is a necessary consequence of the chemical processes of nutrition. Prof. M. sought to prove particularly that the development of electricity in the muscles can never produce electric currents, which circulate either in the muscular mass, or in the nerves. It is only by a particular arrangement of the experiment that we succeed in obtaining a muscular current. Further, all experiments contradict the opinion of an electrical current existing in the nerves. Prof. M. proved that the current said to be proper of the frog, is, on the contrary, a general phenomenon which exists in all the muscles which have tendinous extremities unequally distributed; that this current, supposed to be peculiar to the frog, is merely a particular instance of muscular current. In the second place, Prof. M. laid before the section his last researches on electrical fishes. He shewed that the laws of the elec-

trical shock of these animals are a necessary consequence of the development of electricity, which is produced in each cell of the electrical organ, under the influence of the nervous power. In the third place, Prof. M. shewed the relation which exists between the electrical current and nervous power. He proved that muscular contraction is always produced by a phenomenon analogous to the electrical spark, and that the electrical current does but modify the nervous excitability. On these facts Prof. M. establishes a simple theory of electro-physiological phenomena.

In the last part of his communication Prof. M. treated of induced contraction; and after having demonstrated that these phenomena cannot be explained in supposing an electrical discharge, he concludes that induced contraction is an elementary phenomenon of the nervous power, which acts in muscular contraction, and is analogous to all actions of induction of physical forces.

Professor Owen expressed his obligations for the concise views set forth by Professor Matteucci, rendering clear the connexion of electricity and physiology.

Sir J. Herschel courted discussion; he directed attention to muscular motion as being intricate and remarkable. It involved will, effort, and force; the first known, the second but faintly, the third unknown. There was evident a sort of mechanism; and though his views may be immature, he gave them, possessing some analogies, and because they may tend to farther inquiries. Suppose ellipsoids enclosed in a perfectly smooth membrane,—a chain of such bags carried into a line of any degree of eccentricity. Suppose, in their external form, a series of such membranes constituting muscular fibre. If these ellipsoids were steel magnets, there would be no difficulty; but suppose them capable of becoming magnetic, then in relation to an electric current carried round them perpendicularly to their major axes they would be transformed into magnets, and would arrange themselves transversely, the sum total of their lengths becoming shorter, and the muscle thus contracted.

Dr. Carpenter considered muscular precisely the same as vegetable contraction: oblong cells shortened by approach of the two ends and extending laterally. It must be borne in mind, however, he said, that there is contraction in plants without electricity; and have we not action in animal substance independent of nervous force?

3. Dr. Bullar's communication went to shew that the direction and formation of blood-vessels, and the motion of fluids in the animal economy, not under the direct propulsive influence of the heart, are strictly in accordance with the laws of electro-magnetism; the whole phenomena resulting from two circular forces acting at right angles to each other. He took as a type, the changes in the yolk of an egg during incubation.

Professor Owen bore testimony to the accuracy of the anatomical facts generally as brought forward by Dr. Bullar.

Sir J. Herschel considered, that if the directions of the forces could be pointed out, assuredly there was a step made; but he thought it possible to go a little too fast. We were not prepared at present to state the existence of magnetism in circulation. We have currents, but where are the magnets? and Professor Matteucci, moreover, denies circulation in nerves.

4. Prof. Wartmann said his notes were unaccountably missing, but he would attempt a brief verbal communication to the Section. His experiments had for their object to ascertain whether light when not polarised was acted upon by electro-magnets; and whether magnetism acted chemically, or rather, if chemical actions were influenced by magnets. In regard to the affection of non-polarised light, all his experiments were negative. He had tried also, using various prisms, whether the dark lines of the spectrum would be changed by electro-magnets. He found that in no instance were they affected either in number or

position. His experiments also as to chemical phenomena submitted to electro-magnetism were all negative. He did not mean to assert that electro-magnets had no power in crystallisation, but he thinks this is to be referred not to a direct action, but perhaps to weak electric currents influenced by electro-magnetism. In his experience he noticed the following facts in regard to lines of chemical deposition. Placing soft iron in a vessel, of any form, containing a solution of sulphate of copper, after the first deposit of copper on the iron, thin films of a blue substance, "a sub-sulphate of copper," were generated, extending in rays most geometrically, not to the sides of the vessel, but at a certain distance from the central iron, connecting their extremities, like to the form of a passion-flower. If two pieces of soft iron were placed in the same liquid, there would be the same action from both, but no intermingling of rays. Those for the shortest interval would meet perpendicularly, and each in succession incline so as virtually to divide the vessel into halves. The rays of either centre not being allowed to pass into the domain of the other, they incline to the straight line, and again form perfectly symmetrical figures. And so from three centres, one placed at the summit of a triangle, the vessel is, as it were, divided into three domains, and no trespassing occurs, the rays of each meeting at the triangular line of division, some much inflected, but all again forming a regular and constant figure.

6. Most experiments hitherto on falling bodies have exhibited a southerly as well as an easterly deviation from the perpendicular. Prof. Oersted urged the carrying out a new series of experiments to test the truth, and, if possible, detect the cause, of the southerly deviation. From the expensive nature of the investigation he did not think it probable that the inquiry would ever be conducted without the aid of the British Association.

Sir J. Herschel conceived that this remarkable fact of southerly deviation may be accounted for by electro-magnetic induction.

Mr. Grove could not understand how the deviation could be due to electro-magnetism. If there were currents of electricity on both sides of the falling body, their effect would be neutralised, and the body would fall straight.

Sir J. Herschel said that Mr. Grove's observation was directly to the point. But we must integrate the forces acting. The integral may not vanish, carried to the centre of the earth; and this was a problem which, solved, may lead to a knowledge of magnetic currents within the earth.

Mr. Broun, with reference to communications Nos. 6 and 7, suggested that persons investigating the properties and powers of magnets should direct their attention to rendering them, if possible, unsusceptible to temperature. The temperature correction being reduced as small as possible, would be of great advantage in magnetic researches.

9. Mr. Dent stated, that last year at Cambridge he described his improvement of the compass, which consisted in his placing the magnetic needles and the card on an axis, instead of the usual mode of suspension, the point being higher than the centre of gravity, and subject, when on ship-board, to the law of pendulous bodies. Mr. Dent exhibited to the Section his azimuth compass, which by turning in azimuth 180° effected the correction for collimation, and, by inverting the card (it being engraved on both sides), it afforded the means of determining the error of the zero on the card not coinciding with the magnetic meridian. As a surveying instrument, having the adjustments for collimation and meridian, it is certainly elevated in the scale of scientific instruments. Mr. Dent related its satisfactory behaviour, particularly on board vessels propelled by the screw, and shewed that the vertical vibration caused in the vessel by the motion of the screw was such as to cause all ordinary compasses to be of no use, arising prin-

cipally from the centre of gravity not passing through the centre of motion by the quantity due for the correction arising from dip. Mr. Dent said, that all experiments with the old compasses on board her Majesty's yacht *Fairy* had failed, whilst his was found to be the only compass by which the yacht could be steered, and was now used on board in preference to all others; and he was of opinion that all vessels in which the screw was used must be steered with a compass having its needle and card on an axis.

10. Mr. Lawson's new practical arrangements appeared improvements to the telescope.

11. M. Svanberg's multiplying condenser is a simple and ingenious instrument which, by certain manipulations, increases the intensity of the charge from a single contact of zinc and copper, sufficiently to exhibit a spark and give a shock.

13. Prof. Wartmann described peculiarities of a thunderstorm observed by him at Lausanne in August last, with a view to impress upon scientific inquirers how much remains to be done to perfect our knowledge of electrical atmospheric phenomena.

SECTION B.—(Chemical Science, including its application to Agriculture and the Arts.)

1. Mallet (R.), report on the corrosion of iron rails in and out of use.

2. Wilson (Dr.), on the solubility of the fluoride of calcium.

3. Schunk (Dr.), report on colouring matters.

4. Kempe (Dr.) on the application of the principles of a natural system of organic chemistry to the explanation of the phenomena occurring in the diseased potato tuber.

5. Frideaux (J.), some inquiries into the extent, causes, and remedies of the fungi destructive in agriculture.

6. Matteucci (Prof. C.) on the electrolysis of needles in different media.

7. Robinson (Rev. Dr.) on the influence exerted by finely divided platina on the electrodes of a voltameter.

8. Letheby (Dr. H.) on the differences in the physiological actions of the yellow and red prussiates as an evidence of their possessing dissimilar radicals.

9. Percy (Dr.), notice of a gas furnace for organic analysis.

1. *Experiments in progress on six different lines.*—The principal facts already ascertained by me are, 1st, that there is a real difference in the rate of corrosion between rails in use and out of use on railways. That this appears to be connected with their peculiar molecular condition so induced. I have determined the very complex conditions as to magnetism which affect rails sometimes in use, producing both induced and permanent magnetism in the rails. Each rail being magnetic with polarity, and having from four to eight separate poles each. I have determined the constants of abrasion and of corrosion, and reduced the former to a mileage per ton, and the latter to a ton per yard, both in extensive tables co-ordinating with my tables of corrosion of wrought iron already published by the British Association. I have at present extended the research to discover the general relations of magnetic metals (in conditions analogous to rails) to corrosion, and expect to have the whole subject in a condition to present as completed at the next meeting of the Association.

2. In a paper read this year to the Royal Society of Edinburgh, announcing the solubility of fluoride of calcium in water, and its detection in milk, in blood, and in sea-water, where it had not been previously found, Dr. Wilson confirmed the results of previous observations as to the presence of this salt in natural waters, in plants, and in animal remains. Since then Dr. Wilson's experiments exhibit the extent to which fluoride of calcium is soluble in water at 60°, a point of some interest in connexion with geological and mineralogical as well as chemical speculations. They were performed with a solution of native well-crystallised fluor-spar, prepared by boiling distilled water upon the powdered fluor, which had been previously purified by digestion with warm aqua regia, so as to remove any trace of metallic oxides, lime, salts, &c. The solution at 212° was filtered whilst warm, and left at rest for some days in stopped bottles at a temperature of about 60°, until it deposited the excess of fluor soluble above that tem-

perature. It was then filtered a second time, and a certain volume of this solution, measured at 60°, was evaporated to dryness. Twenty pints of distilled water were found to dissolve 6-330 grains of fluor-spar, so that the average amount dissolved in one pint will be 0-2637 grains. One grain, therefore, of fluor will require 26,345 grains of water at 60° to dissolve it, or water at that temperature will take up $\frac{1}{3745}$ of its weight of that salt. The solubility here indicated must be considered great for a salt hitherto reputed quite insoluble.

3. An account of results of experiments on madder, to which the author has directed his attention in the first instance, because, he says, the colouring matters contained in it are almost unknown, or rather worse than unknown, namely, known in such a manner as surely to mislead; and because madder is of such importance to the art of dyeing, that every discovery in relation to it acquires immediately a practical bearing. Alizarin, discovered by Robiquet, is doubtless the most interesting, and the most definite in its nature, of all the substances contained in madder. Many assert that it is a product of decomposition; Robiquet states that it pre-exists in the plant. This Dr. Schunk affirms, as he obtained it in more than one way without the intervention of heat. He has also obtained from madder two other colouring matters. Madder treated with hot or cold water, with muriatic or sulphuric acid added, yields a dark reddish brown flocculent precipitate. This was separated by filtration, and washed until the acid was removed; treated with boiling water, part of it dissolves with a brown colour; and a few drops of acid to the filtered solution throws down a dark-brown precipitate. This Dr. Schunk considers a peculiar colouring matter, similar in its properties to orcein, hematin, and other soluble colouring matters. It dissolves red in alkalis, and imparts very lively colours to mordanted cloths. The author is not aware that this substance has been hitherto described, but he, as yet, has only very slightly examined it. The residue of the above process, treated with dilute boiling nitric acid, acquires a bright yellow colour, and a more powdery consistence. This yellow powder contains all the alizarin of the root, but mixed with another substance of an amorphous nature, though of very similar properties, and difficult to separate. The only successful method of many tried by the author was, to dissolve the yellow powder in a little caustic potash, and to add perchloride of iron, which produces a dark reddish brown precipitate, consisting of peroxide of iron in combination with the two substances. Boiling this precipitate with an excess of perchloride of iron, the alizarate of iron dissolves, forming a dark brown solution; while the iron compound of the other substance remains behind, and may be decomposed by treating with perchloride of iron and muriatic acid, and washing till all the oxide of iron is removed. It seems, the author says, also to be a colouring matter; as it dissolves with a red colour in alkalis, and gives red compounds with the earths and metallic oxides. It is insoluble in water, but soluble in alcohol, with a yellow colour. It therefore resembles the resins in its general properties. It cannot be obtained in a crystallised state. From a hot concentrated solution in alcohol it separates on cooling as a yellow powder. It imparts no colour to mordanted cloth.

6. The following facts have especial interest with reference to the molecular polarisation of bodies, either interposed between two opposite electrical charges, or in presence of a discharge. As often as the armed interfoliate is formed of thin layers that may be separated the one from the other, we find that, after being charged, if we unmake this species of pile, each lamina, however thin it be, has upon its two faces opposite electrical charges: this phenomenon holds even when the layers are so strongly pressed together that they may be supposed to form a solid. This

experiment succeeds with mica, sulphate of lime, glazed paper, &c. &c.

For the experiment in the case of discharge. Place needles, of the same size and similarly arranged as in the researches of Savary, in presence of a platinum wire; pass a battery-discharge across the wire, and the magnetism taken by the needles will be found to vary with the nature of the medium in which the needles were placed. Prof. Matteucci used oil of tremanthine, olive oil, alcohol, and mica. The maximum of magnetisation he found at very different distances from the wire, and this maximum varies according to circumstances. In air, for instance, the needle that takes its maximum of magnetism at 60 millimetres from the wire traversed by the discharge, receives it at 15 millimetres with mica interposed. The needles in the different media, the Professor added, were submitted to the same discharge, and at the same time. With the voltaic current the influence of the media increases a thousandfold.

7. The principal point which Dr. Robinson's experiments were calculated to shew was, that when the electrodes of a voltameter are covered with a finely comminuted platina, the decomposition of water is effected by a less powerful current of electricity. He attributed this to energetic capillary attraction, involving the action of heat, as in Grove's recent discovery.

Mr. Grove agreed with Dr. Robinson as to the cause of the increased effect, and in commenting on the subject he alluded to the peculiar fact, that ebullition in no circumstances seems to take place excepting from the surface of solid bodies. The bubbles of air in a glass of champagne, for example, always rise from the bottom or sides of the glass, and the steam of boiling water always collects in bubbles against the solid surface, and never rises from amongst the particles of the liquid. He was of opinion that, supposing it possible to heat water without contact with a solid surface, the fluid would not boil till the whole mass burst into ebullition at once.

SECTION C.—(Geology and Physical Geography.)

1. Agassiz (Prof.), report on the fishes of the London clay.

2. Sanders (W.) on sections made on the line of the Great Western Railway between Bristol and Taunton.

3. Bald (R.), observations on the Muschet band, commonly called the Black-band Ironstone of the coal-field of Scotland.

4. Ansted (Prof.), general results of the examination of the coal of Northern India, being an analysis of the report communicated to the Indian government.

5. Owen (Prof.) on some new fossil mammalia from South America.

6. Jobert (M.) on graphic granite.

7. Buckman (Mr.), notice of a new species of hypanthierite.

8. Edwards (Mr.), list of the Bracklesham fossils.

M. Agassiz's paper on the fossil fishes of the London clay was but a brief intimation of his researches, which he had not time (till next year) to finish. The growth of the sword-fish was, he had observed, distinguishable in the teeth, and he considered Shaw's three species of *Pristis* to be one and the same. The difference between the remains in the London clay and the Paris gypsum was mentioned as very striking; the fishes of the Paris basin were those that lived in corallines and rocky places, while those of the Sheppy or London basin were those that frequented the mud.

In allusion to the Indian coal-fields (a full report of which appeared in *Lit. Gaz.* No. 1549), M. Greenough said they were identified with the diamond districts; and Mr. Jukes referred to the connexion between the coal-fields of Australia and India, to shew that the fields of the south of India were connected with those of Malacca and Borneo. Sir H. de la Beche said the coal-beds in Borneo were 11 feet in thickness, but there were no fossils in it. Some limestone had been brought home from Borneo with fossils in it. Colonel Sykes stated that the East India Government were encouraging every thing that could promote science in India, and sparing no expense in their geological researches.

Mr. R. Bald, on the Muschet band commonly

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called the black-band ironstone of the coal-fields of Scotland, complained of Mr. Muschet's having been deprived of the advantages of his discovery. Dr. Buckland said the discovery of Mr. Muschet magnified a product from 15 tons to 400 or 500, and the blame of having injured him must be thrown upon Scotland, or those Scottish people who have derived benefit from his discovery and refused to recognise his claims.

Mr. Buckman furnished a notice of a new species of hypanthocrinite, an animal like the star-fish, but assuming the shape of the lily, and was found in the Wenlock band of limestone in Silurian rocks, &c.

SECTION D.—(Zoology and Botany.)

1. Whitty (Mrs.) on the production of silk in England.
2. Salter (Dr. B.) on the true character of the tendrils of the cucumber.
3. Forbes (Prof. E.) and M'Andrew (Mr.) on new and rare marine animals dredged in the British seas since the last meeting.
4. Bell (Prof.) on the crustacea dredged by Prof. Forbes and Mr. M'Andrew.
5. Thompson (Mr. W.) on additions to the fauna of Ireland, including species new to that of Britain.
6. Rankin (Mr.) on the hibernation of snails.
7. Peach (Mr.) on the marine zoology of Cornwall.
8. Couch (Mr.) on the eggspore and embryo of a species of myriobolus.
9. Carpenter (Dr.) on the microscopic structure of shells, and on the application of photography to the microscope.
10. Knox (Dr.) concluded his inquiries into the natural history of certain species of the Clupeidae, Corregoi, and Salmonidae.

In this day's proceedings Professor Forbes' and Mr. M'Andrew's dredging report, Messrs. Thompson's, Allman's, and Peach's communications (given separately) were the chief subjects of interest. Mr. Carpenter, on the microscopic structure of shells, in this, as in other sections was replete with curious observation.

1. Mrs. Whitty's Italian mulberry-tree gave rise to some conversation, in which its milky nature and facility of cultivation in England and Ireland were insisted upon as recommending it as the foundation for silk manufacturing. The Irish poplins, of which we have frequently spoken as exhibited at these meetings, might then be entirely Irish; they could not be more rich and beautiful than they are.

2. Went to shew that in this genus and family the tendril represents the leaf, while the developed leaf next to it is the first leaf of a sessile axillary branch.

SECTION E.—(Physiology.)

1. Blake (Dr. J.), report on the physiological action of medicines.
2. Owen (Prof.) on the human skeleton.
3. Laycock (Dr.) on diseases arising from the immoderate use of tobacco:—4. exhibited diagrams shewing the relation between mortality from diarrhoea and atmospheric temperature.
2. Prof. Owen applied several of his recent anatomical conclusions to the human skeleton, and made some remarkable comparisons between it and those of the wombat, the ape, and other animals. It would require many pages to illustrate the wonderful analogies which were pointed out, and the particulars and uses of construction, hitherto, we believe, unnoticed by anatomists.
3. A subject of such general interest in this poisonous smoking generation that we have given it a place *per se*. Nothing but a revenue of some four millions a year could palliate the encouragement of the odious practice.

SECTION F.—(Statistics.)

1. Nelson (Mr. T. C. P.) on the criminal statistics of England and Wales for 1842-44.
2. Liddell (Mr.) on statistics of education in Glasgow in 1846.
3. Sykes (Col.) on statistics of the government charitable dispensaries of India.
1. A very long and very important document, accompanied by voluminous tables; the deduction from the whole was a powerful argument in favour of education.
2. Mr. Liddell, by drawing radii at certain distances from the centre to the circumference, or outskirts, came to a conclusion that the population

in the very heart of Glasgow were more vicious and criminal than those (and in proportion as they were) removed from that hotbed. We do not wonder at the result, seeing how close the closes and the whisky-shops are in the central parts.

3. To this we may probably return.

SECTION G.—(Mechanics.)

1. Lamb (Mr.) on improvements in the steam-engine.
2. Fairbairn (Mr.), the results as obtained from the experiments in connexion with the proposed tubular bridges across the Conway and Menai Straits.
3. Hodgkinson (Mr.) on the result of some experiments of his own on the same subject.
4. Clark (Mr. E., resident engineer for the proposed Menai bridge), gave a few practical details connected with the same experiments.
5. Vignoles (Mr.) on the Chinese method of boring as practised on the continent, and as applicable to the boring of artesian wells, and for the ventilation of mines.
6. Eytan (Mr.) on improvements in marine steam-engines.

Mr. Fairbairn completed reading the details of his paper, and the subject, including 3 and 4, was again fully discussed. M. Vignoles explained at length the mode of Chinese boring for wells and in mines. Mr. S. Russell read the last paper (on a subject connected with Mr. Lamb's), which suggested as an improvement a self-acting stop-valve between the boilers. By this arrangement the valves were kept in constant motion, making a peculiar noise, an interruption in which gave notice of any injury to either of the boilers, and thus it was hoped many accidents might be prevented. Another of the suggested improvements was a contrivance for preventing the accumulation of scales in the boiler.

WEDNESDAY.

SECTION B.—(Chemical Science, including its application to Agriculture and the Arts.)

1. Connell (Prof.) on the nature of lactic acid.
2. Blake (J.) on the connexion between the isomorphous relations of the elements and their physiological action.
3. Letheby (Dr.) on the chemical action of oxalic acid on the blood and tissues of the animal body.
4. Daubeny (Dr.) new facts bearing on the chemical theory of volcanoes.
5. Spooner (W. C.) on certain principles which obtain in the application of manures.
6. Thomson (Dr. R. D.) on an important chemical law in the nutrition of animals.

1. Professor Connell denies the existence of aldehydic acid in lactic acid. He says the atomic weight of the latter, 50.35, is quite inconsistent with the presence of any notable quantity of the former, because the atomic weight of aldehydic acid, namely, 43, never could by mixture increase the weight of formic acid from 37 to 50.35. But this increase may be explained by supposing a foreign body, such as aldehyde, associated with the acetic portion of the lactic acid and entering into the constitution of its salts. By "exposing lampate of barytes to a continued heat of 300° Fah. the atomic weight of the acid was constantly reduced by the expulsion of foreign matter, whilst no part of the base worth notice was separated."

2. Mr. Blake's researches have been directed to the verification of a law propounded by him, namely, that when introduced into the blood, all isomorphous substances produce analogous effects and give rise to the same reactions in the animal economy. The first fact that presents itself on a consideration of this law is, the marked differences that it establishes between the reactions that take place between inorganic compounds and the elements of the blood and tissues whilst forming part of the living body and those which the same elements present when withdrawn from the body. In investigating the chemical properties of the blood, the changes which take place under the influence of acids or alkalis in the living body are commonly considered to be more or less analogous to what is observed in the laboratory. But such is far from being the case: from the moment an inorganic element is introduced into the blood of a living animal, its acid or alkaline properties, its relations as a weak or powerful base, become matters of very little consideration; but it is seen that the phenomena it gives rise to are entirely dependent on those of its properties which are connected with its isomorphous

relations. Substances existing in, or having isomorphous relations with the elements of, the blood exhibit the least marked reactions: "Phosphoric and arsenic acids" can be introduced into the veins without producing any marked phenomena. But those the elements of which, in an isomorphous point of view, are most distinct from the constituents of the blood give rise to the most marked phenomena. For instance, two drachms of arsenic acid injected into the veins will produce no marked effect on any organ; but a grain of chloride of palladium, or two grains of nitrate of baryta are sufficient instantly to arrest the movements of the heart. The different members of the same isomorphous group generally produce analogous changes in the blood; but this rule is not without exceptions: the salts of ammonia and lead were cited. The salts of ammonia and potash agree in the reactions they produce, but the former affect the nervous system like vegetable poisons, whilst the latter cause no marked action. This exception, Mr. Blake thinks, will probably be found to be connected with the compound nature of the base of the salts of ammonia. Salts of lead resemble, in their reactions, the salts of silver, but agree in phenomena with the salts of baryta and strontia. Silver appears to be the only substance that enters into permanent combination with the elements of the still living animal, as is seen in the discoloration of the skin from the use of nitrate of silver. It is perhaps the only element capable of replacing the soda (with which it is isomorphous) of the animal tissues without destroying their vitality. Should the truth of the law be admitted, the author thinks many interesting facts connected with the molecular properties of matter, particularly of organic compounds, may be elucidated by the reactions they produce on the animal organisation.

3. Dr. Letheby asserts that oxalic acid does exert a corrosive influence upon the tissues of the stomach. And in proof, he cited *post mortem* examinations of the human subject, his experiments on animals, and the result of his experiments with different solutions of oxalic acid on the various animal textures. With regard to the effects of oxalic acid upon the living body, it has hitherto been a question with physiologists how it produces its quick and energetic action. Experiments shew that this poison is absorbed, and that it may be detected in the blood and urine: *post mortem* examinations also indicate that the former fluid is deprived of its power of spontaneous coagulation. Dr. Letheby thinks it is reasonable, therefore, to infer that it exerts some specific influence over the vital properties of this fluid, and so deprives it of the power of sustaining life.

6. Dr. Thomson's paper appeared to be a summary of his Report to Parliament on Feeding Cattle, and of his own published papers and works, shewing the principles upon which dietaries should be constructed so as to meet the wants of the animal system under the particular circumstances in which it may be placed, either when vegetable food is alone used, or when it is desirable to employ also animal food.

In regard to the discussion recently carried on between Liebig and Boussingault (accounts of which have from time to time appeared in our columns), Dr. Thomson states that the oil contained in the food is by no means sufficient in amount to afford a source for animal fat.

SECTION C.—(Geology and Physical Geography.)

1. Beke (Dr.) on the physical character of the table-land of Abyssinia.
2. Cooley (Mr.), synopsis of proposed physico-geographical survey of the British Islands.
3. Yates (Mr.) on *Zamia gigas*.
4. Carpenter (Dr.) on the microscopic structure of shells, and on the application of photography to the delineation of fossils.

1. Given in full, *Literary Gazette*, No. 1549.
2. The benefits to agriculture of such a survey were pointed out, and Mr. Cooley warmly advocated its being made at the public expense.
3. Specimens from the lower oolite exhibited.

SECTION D.—(Zoology and Botany.)

1. Owen (Prof.), report on the periodical phenomena of plants and animals.
2. Thompson (Mr. W.), comparisons of the periods of the flowering of plants in the early spring of 1846 in the Botanic Garden of Belfast and the Jardin des Plantes at Paris: also notes on additions to the flora of Ireland.
3. Strangways (Hon. W. Fox), on mould containing phosphorescent vegetables.
4. Peterson (Capt.), notice of the application of the fibres of the tree-mallow to manufactures, communicated by Captain Libbetson.
5. Strickland (Mr.), report on the vitality of seeds.
6. Bonomi (Mr. J.), note on figures of birds observed on a tomb at Memphis.
7. Allman (Prof.), additional notice of *Alderia modesta*.
8. Frazer (Dr.) exhibited some zoological specimens from Africa.
9. Carpenter (Dr.) on the structure and physiology of the pycnogonide.
10. Falconer (Dr.) and Thompson (Mr. W.) on the crania of two species of crocodile from Sierra Leone.
11. Allman (Prof.) on certain peculiarities in the anatomy of *Limax Sowerbii*.
12. Reeve (Mr. L.) on the dissimilarity in the calcifying functions of molluscs whose organisation is in other respects similar.
13. Henfrey (Mr. A.) on the development of vegetable cells.
14. Duncan (Mr.), description of a fruit: also notice on the economical use of Shea butter candles.
15. Stirling (Mr. M.) on proposed substitutes for the potato.

We have already noticed several of the above communications, classed under "Natural History." The remainder, of any interest, may be dismissed in a few words. The calcifying function of the "spirule" (No. 12) differs so remarkably from that of the other similar cephalopods, that it deserves the attention of physiologists. Mr. Henfrey (No. 13) attributes the development of vegetable cells to a folding-in of the primordial utricle, and not to cytotlasts, as hitherto supposed by many naturalists. The fruit from Africa (No. 14) resembled an orange, the interior of which served as admirable soap. Candles made from the oily substance of the Shea butter-tree were burned in the section-room.

SECTION G.—(Mechanics.)

1. Phipps (Dr.), an account of the construction and performance of two sailing vessels built on the wave-system.
2. Bodmer (Mr. J. G.), description of an apparatus for storing and preserving corn in large national granaries.
3. Bevan (Dr. W.) on a new plan of applying atmospheric air to the purposes of locomotion.
4. Brockedon (Mr.) on vulcanised India rubber.
5. Bodmer (Mr.), an account of some experiments on long and short stroke engines.
6. Clark (Mr.) exhibited a model of a new atmospheric railway.

The performances of two yachts, one of ten tons and the other of forty-five tons, built upon the wave-principle of Mr. Scott Russell, exhibited the great advantages of the wave-form for sailing vessels. We have little doubt but that ere long the wave-principle will be more generally adopted, and with much benefit to our navy and merchant service. There will then be no necessity for experimental squadrons, at least to determine the merits of rival constructors, and the rule of thumb will be banished from both public and private dockyards. The establishment of the wave-principle, so ably investigated and propounded by Mr. Scott Russell, is another of the many valuable proofs of the usefulness of the British Association.

THE CONSEQUENCES OF SMOKING.

THE wide-spread habit of smoking has not yet had due medical attention paid to it and its consequences. It is only by two or three years' observations that Dr. Laycock had become fully aware of the great changes induced in the system by the abuse of tobacco, and of the varied and obscure forms of disease to which especially excessive smoking gave origin. He proceeded to state some of them as they were met with in the pharyngeal mucous membrane, the stomach, the lungs, the heart, the brain, and the nervous system. The tobacco consumed by habitual smokers varied from half an ounce to twelve ounces per week, the usual quantity from two to three ounces. Inveterate cigar

smokers will consume from four to five dozen per week.

The first morbid result is an inflammatory condition of the mucous membrane of the lips and tongue; then the tonsils and pharynx suffer,—the mucous membrane becoming dry and congested. If the thorax be examined well, it will be found slightly swollen, with congested veins meandering over the surface, and here and there a streak of mucus. Action ascends upwards into the posterior nares, and there is a discharge from the upper part of the pharynx, and irritation is felt within the anterior nares. The eye becomes affected with heat, slight redness, lachrymation, and a peculiar spasmodic action of the orbicularis muscle, experienced together with intolerance of light on awaking from sleep in the morning. The frontal sinuses do not escape, but there is a heavy dull ache in their region.

Descending down the alimentary canal we come to the stomach, where the results, in extreme cases, are symptoms of gastritis. Pain, tenderness, and a constant sensation of sickness and desire to expectorate, belong to this affection.

The action of the heart and lungs is impaired by the influence of the narcotic on the nervous system; but a morbid state of the larynx, trachea, and lungs results from the direct action of the smoke. The voice is observed to be rendered hoarser, and with a deeper tone. Sometimes a short cough results; and a case of ulceration of the cartilages of the larynx came under the doctor's notice. The patient was such a slave to the habit, that he hardly ever had the pipe out of his mouth. Similar sufferings have been caused by similar practices in other instances.

Another form is a slight tickling low down in the pharynx or trachea; and the patient coughs, or rather hawks up, a grumous-looking blood. It is so alarming as to be mistakable for pulmonary hæmoptysis.

The action of tobacco-smoking on the heart is depressing; and some individuals who feel it in this organ more than others complain of an uneasy sensation about the left nipple—a distressing feeling, not amounting to faintness, but allied to it. The action of the heart is observed to be feeble and irregular. An uneasy feeling is also experienced in or beneath the pectoral muscles, and oftener on the right side than on the left.

On the brain the use of tobacco appears to diminish the rapidity of cerebral action, and check the flow of ideas through the mind. It differs from opium and henbane, and rather excites to wakefulness, like green tea, than composes to sleep—induces a dreaminess which leaves no impression on the memory, leaving a great susceptibility, indicated by a trembling of the hands and irritability of temper. Such are secondary results of smoking. So are blackness of the teeth and gum-boils; there is also a sallow paleness of the complexion, an irresoluteness of disposition, a want of life and energy, and, in constant smokers who do not drink, a tendency to pulmonary phthisis.

Dr. Wright of Birmingham, in a communication to the author, fully corroborates his opinions; and both agree that smoking produces gastric disorders, coughs, and inflammatory affections of the larynx and pharynx, diseases of the heart, and lowness of spirits; and, in short, is very injurious to the respiratory, circulating, alimentary, and nervous systems.

The following letter from the President to the Editor of the *Morning Post*, containing the proceedings of Thursday, will appropriately conclude our report of the meeting of the British Association for 1846; and the account to a foreign journal of the Scientific Congress at Genoa will as appropriately shew, in contrast not flattering to Southampton, the estimation in which the votaries of science are held, and the manner in which they are entertained, abroad:

SIR,—On returning yesterday to the neighbour-

hood of Southampton, from a short tour, my attention was directed to an article in your journal of the 21st (as taken from the *Hampshire Telegraph*), wherein the visit of the British Association for the Advancement of Science to Portsmouth is noticed in disparaging terms. Having already written to the editor of the Portsmouth paper on this subject, I beg you will also give publicity to my statement. In the first place, I have most positively to contradict the assertion (too absurd, indeed, to be credited by any one who is acquainted with me), that I had "the extreme modesty to ask the gallant admiral, commanding in chief, to meet the members of the Association, on their arrival, in full dress uniform." The facts are, that having been very desirous of leaving a favourable impression on the minds of our foreign visitors, I obtained from the Admiralty an order that they might all inspect the dockyard; and, on communicating with Sir Charles Ogle, that gallant officer (who had before personally expressed to me his good will towards the Association) proposed, with his wonted urbanity and hospitality, to receive a limited party at his own house. That party, as defined by me before the general committee at Southampton, consisted of the foreign savans, three or four presidents of sections, and a few officers and other members, in all certainly not exceeding thirty. As many persons, both belonging to the Association and wholly unconnected with it, had repaired on board the Excellent to await our arrival (particularly in the hope of witnessing an experiment with Professor Schönbein's gun-cotton), it became very difficult to separate my party from the mass. Afterwards, however, on re-assembling on board the Victory, I repeated the injunction respecting the necessary limits of the *déjeuner*, and stated that those only who had it notified to them could partake of the admiral's entertainment. This intimation (as would appear from the result) was not so generally heard as I intended, owing chiefly to the individuals to whom it was addressed being scattered over the ship; and no one could regret more than myself the influx of many additional persons into the Admiralty House, whilst I was introducing the distinguished men who accompanied me to the Commander-in-chief. But as such incidents will occur on popular occasions, in spite of every precaution, I must say, in justice to the gallant admiral, who might well have been overpowered by numbers, that he kindly and courteously received them all. Putting aside the unforeseen intrusion, I may now be allowed to state that the foreigners, the members of the Association, and the few ladies who were presented by me to the Admiral, to Captain Chads of the Excellent, and to Captain Pasco of the Victory, were one and all highly delighted with their reception, and went away deeply impressed with the display of British talent and ingenuity which had been exhibited on ship-board and in the dockyard.

In addition to Sir John Herschel and the President of the Geological Society, our party contained two of the first mechanical philosophers of the age, Professor Willis of Cambridge, and Dr. Robinson of Armagh; and as the list further comprised the names of Oersted, Forchhammer, Matteucci, Wartmann, Middendorff, &c. &c., I think I may say, without presumption, that a group of equal European reputation in science has rarely been brought together in one great naval arsenal.—I remain, Sir, your very obedient servant,

ROBERT I. MURCHISON.

Belgrave Square, Sept. 27.

SCIENTIFIC CONGRESS AT GENOA.

NOTHING can exceed the liberality with which this meeting is organised. That noble edifice, the University, opens its halls to the various sections, which meet daily for two hours to discuss scientific subjects, and which are thus divided:—1. Agriculture; 2. Geography and Archeology; 3. Surgery and Anatomy; 4. Chemistry; 5. Physics and Mathematics; 6. Zoology; 7. Botany; 8. Geology

and Mineralogy; 9. Medicine. Each of these sections has a president, a vice-president, and a secretary. The Marquis Brignole, Sardinian ambassador at Paris, being the president of the Congress, and the Marquis Palavicini the secretary: a better choice could not have been made. From 700 to 800 scienziati daily attend these meetings. I will not attempt to tell you how many of this number are really men of science and merit. The smatterers and charlatans are, however, of no small utility, contributing, as in social life, *à faire ressortir l'esprit des autres*. Every person having pretensions to one of the branches before mentioned, supported by university degrees or diplomas of scientific bodies (and the admission is most liberal), is supplied with a ticket, which admits him to all the sections and general meetings; to a free entry to all the monuments and curiosities of the town; to the Carino de Nobili; to a daily dinner; and entitles him to a medal, and to a handsome work, in three volumes, descriptive of the monuments and history of Genoa, printed expressly for the purpose. The Marquis Palavicini has most handsomely given his beautiful palace, the Pesceira, for a daily dinner, of about 400 to 500 covers, at 3*f.* a-head; the town making a most liberal allowance of as much more, or about 26,000*f.*, to the contractor, for the twenty days which the Congress is to last. This dinner, which is most admirably served, by an abundance of well-appointed servants, with plate, linen, glass, and porcelain, which would not disgrace any private establishment, has perhaps no small share in promoting the numerical extent of the Congress, and perhaps in the manufacture of some few *savans*. *Magister Artia Ingeniique largitor Venter*, has been thus translated,

"Hunger a Master is of Arts,
Which brightens much the mental parts;"

and when I have dined there, and heard the conversation around me, the Latin adage has always presented itself,

"Omnia novit; Græculus esuriens."

But the city of Genoa has not contented itself with this public munificence. The nobles and authorities vie with each other in hospitality to the learned strangers. The Governor gives three most splendid balls and three *soirées* in the Palazzo Ducale; the palaces of the Brignoles, the Dorias, Palavicinis, Ferraris, De Negro, &c., have displayed their hitherto hidden treasures in entertainments in character with their princely halls; and the Marquis Serra, at whose singularly beautiful palace a ball was given for charitable purposes, with a liberality equally rare and worthy of imitation, himself paid all the expenses of an entertainment worthy of the era of the Doges, leaving to the charity the whole amount of the proceeds—about 600*l.* or 700*l.* The Congress will wind up with a regatta and illumination in the port; and Genoa will then, touched by the same magic wand which extinguishes the Mocalette, and signs the death-warrant of the carnival at Rome, instantly resume its silent grandeur, leaving no vestiges of the turmoils of the past month save the most lively reminiscences of its splendour, munificence, and its hospitality.—*French Paper.*

SCIENCE AND ARCHÆOLOGY.

To the Editor of the Literary Gazette.

SIR,—At the late Scientific Congress in Italy, I observe that along with the Mathematical, Chemical, Geological, and other sections, which have their representatives in the British Association, there was also an *Archæological Section*. My object in this letter is to suggest the establishment of a similar section in our own body, which might include Classical, Oriental, Egyptian, Etruscan, and perhaps British Archæology. The want of such a section has been regretted by many; and it is probable that its establishment would add considerably to the funds of the Association, by inducing many new members to join it. The year 1847 seems

peculiarly favourable for such an event. The place of meeting is the seat of a university, many of the most eminent members of which would, it cannot be questioned, find themselves more at home in such a section than in any of those now existing. In these they would be silent spectators; while in that they would feel themselves qualified to impart information, and to comment on what others might impart.

I have spoken doubtfully of British archæology. For the cultivation of this, two rival migratory bodies already exist. It is desirable that these should be blended into one, and perhaps the best way of effecting this would be for both to be absorbed in a new body. On the other hand, the localities selected for the meetings of the British Association will not be always as favourable for the special objects of the British archæologist as Oxford is; and, again, I fear that if all, or even the greater part, of these objects were to be included along with those which I have already indicated, the field of labour would be too extended and too varied. It would, therefore, I should think, be better to confine the attention of the section to the *dead languages*, which might include the Anglo-Saxon, and to the records existing in them, whether on stone, on medals, or on papyrus. These would afford an interesting and an ample field for discussion to a section; and there can be little doubt that the meeting together of persons who have applied themselves to these subjects, and the interchange of their opinions in conversation, might be as serviceable to enlarge and correct their views, and to suggest new subjects of investigation, as it has been found to be in the existing sections.

I hope, Mr. Editor, that you will give your valuable aid to the carrying into effect this project, to which I can anticipate no solid objection, and that I shall meet you at Oxford, next June, in

SECTION II.*

ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Sept. 7th.—Mr. A. Inghen, vice-president, in the chair. A note from Mr. H. L. Long was read, describing an attempt made to naturalise *Palingena virgo*, and on swarms of white butterflies observed on the French coast. A note was also read from the Rev. F. W. Hope on the recent swarms of white butterflies observed in Essex, and on the early occurrence of the death's-head and convolvulus hawk moths.—A memoir on the economy of the driver ants of tropical Africa, by Dr. Savage, was also read. Mr. Saunders exhibited a very interesting series of specimens illustrative of the natural history of various species of Australian insects; and a living specimen of Christy's locust, taken at Kinsbury, Middlesex, was exhibited by Mr. Bond, together with a remarkable variety of the *Hipparchia Janira*. Mr. J. F. Stephens stated that, owing to the unusual heat of the season, he had observed at least three broods of *Pontia* and two of *Bombyx lumbricipeda*. Specimens of the death's-head moth, produced much earlier than usual, were exhibited by Messrs. J. Stevens and Weir.

Oct. 5th.—The Rev. F. W. Hope, president, in the chair. Specimens of the rare *Deliothila Celerio* and *Cynada dentalis*, from the neighbourhood of Lewes, were exhibited by Mr. Weir; also numerous specimens of *Locusta Christii*, from various parts of the country, it having occurred in considerable numbers this season, evidently owing to the unusual heat. Various examples of the death's-head moth were also exhibited from different localities, this insect having also been in much greater num-

* We insert our correspondent's letter with pleasure, but fear there are insuperable objections to his addition of a section to the British Association. It is a remarkable fact, that there is a very small modicum of literature in proportion to the various sciences embraced by its constitution; but instead of throwing in more of this, or any new element, we are of opinion that it would be most desirable to reduce the number of sections already in contemporaneous working. The whole might be combined into four, or at most five, with great benefit and increased utility.—*Ed. L. G.*

bers than usual, and having been reared from the caterpillar state at a much earlier period than in ordinary seasons. Mr. Doubleday, however, remarked that upon dissection none of these early produced specimens were found to have the eggs developed in the ovaries.

Instances of the capture of the very rare *Graphiphocia subrosea*, *Catocala Traxini*, and *Deiopeia pulchella*, were also noticed, and the following communications were read: 1. Extracts from a letter from Captain Hutton, containing a series of observations on all the species of the genus *Papilio* found in India, and giving an account of a disease to which the potatoes in India have been subject for the last four years, analogous, in some respects, to that by which this vegetable has been attacked in our own part of the world. In India, however, the external portion of the tuber does not become rotten, but small patches in the interior are affected, and when boiled proved almost as hard as solid wood, so that they are quite useless as articles of food. 2. Extracts from a letter from Dr. Templeton, containing notices of various lepidopterous insects of Ceylon. 3. The completion of Dr. Savage's memoir on the driver ants of tropical Africa. This name has been bestowed upon this species of ant from the circumstance of their appearing in vast swarms, and proceeding in their course in companies of great extent, with astonishing regularity, attacking every article of animal matter, both living and dead, and driving before them all the smaller kinds of animals, whereby they rid a dwelling in an inconceivably small space of time of all its vermin-occupants. Although of small size, they do not hesitate to attack serpents several feet long, which, from their countless myriads, they soon destroy, having the instinct to eat out the eyes first. A number of specimens of the insect accompanied the memoir, consisting of neuter individuals of three different sizes, the largest of which act as soldiers: each kind of individuals exhibits a distinct structure of the mandibles, as well as a difference in the size of the head.

LITERARY AND LEARNED.

UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

Oxford, Oct. 10th.—The following degrees were conferred:—

Masters of Arts.—Rev. E. H. Plumtree, Rev. J. W. Knott, fellows of Brasenose College; Rev. W. T. Redfern, Magdalen Hall; H. T. Price, Jesus College.

Bachelors of Arts.—W. H. Hutchins, Queen's College; J. Fortescue, Edmund Hall; E. Walker, Lincoln College.

Cambridge, Oct. 10th.—The following degrees were conferred:—

Masters of Arts.—W. Mills, St. John's Coll.; J. Twining, Trinity College.

Bachelors of Arts.—H. C. Hawley, H. M. Wingfield, Trinity College; J. Price, St. John's College; G. E. Patenden, St. Peter's College.

ANTIQUITIES OF COLCHESTER.

[We have great pleasure in presenting our readers with the following interesting notes of an antiquarian excursion to Colchester; so satisfactory, that we trust it will be an inducement to many other expeditions of the same kind.—*Ed. Lit. Gaz.*]

On Monday, at eleven o'clock a.m., some of the members of the British Archæological Association met at Colchester, and in company with many of the most influential of the inhabitants (a number of whom, by the by, we are happy to say, are also members of the Association), visited nearly every object of interest in the town, commencing with the castle—which was explored from the vaults to the very tops of the towers.

The ruins of St. Botolph were next visited. This priory was founded early in the 12th century, and there can be no doubt that the present remains are a portion of the original erections. The building, on account of the walls having in their construction vast quantities of bricks and tiles, has been stated by many learned antiquaries to have been built with Roman materials from older works; and a very minute examination was therefore made

upon this occasion. It was, in consequence, the general belief of those present, that this opinion was erroneous; and, indeed, the difference between the Roman bricks and tiles and those made in imitation is very plainly perceptible. A few of the former, which are to be found still retaining the original Roman mortar, are, like the latter, so hard and sound, that it is almost impossible to penetrate either with any sharp instrument; whereas the mortar generally used in the erection of St. Botolph's is soft and rotten, and easily leaves the bricks, with a perfectly clean surface. This is beautifully shewn upon comparison with the highly valuable and beautiful remains of the Balken Gate on the west side of the town, and undoubtedly a Roman work; in this case, the tiles and bricks, with the mortar, are (as stated) of a hard, close, and firm structure, while those of the Priory are of a soft nature, and now easily crumble to dust.

The Balken Gate, which is one of the original entrances through the old Roman wall, has a side opening for foot-passengers, still vaulted over, and also a room at the side of the same, which must have served as a guard-room, somewhat in form of a quadrant; the entrance to it is yet to be seen on the town side. The whole of this gate is certainly one of the most valuable Roman remains now left in this country. Farther south, and now forming an entrance from the road into the churchyard of St. Mary's, are the remains of a postern-gate, also of Roman construction. This is clearly proved by the courses of tiles being run along on one side at right angles with the outside of the wall, which, if the opening were merely a modern gap, would not be the case; as these layers of tiles never continued through the wall, but were laid along the outer edges only, one course wide.

In the foundry-yard is a large crypt, covered by plain semicircular groining, in construction and materials very similar to the Castle and St. Botolph's. It is remarkable that this crypt was hitherto almost unknown to many of the antiquaries of Colchester.

Amongst the churches, every one of which was visited, we may particularly mention that of the Holy Trinity, with its Saxon tower; and St. Martin's, an interesting work of the fourteenth century, and possessing many rare and curious specimens. Also a crypt of the fifteenth century, at the east end of St. Peter's; and a very fine specimen of iron scroll hinges, upon the south door of the nave, of the time of Edward I.

Several portions of the old walls, and the curious and beautiful specimens of timber-buildings, so many of which still exist in Colchester, were examined, and all agreed in pronouncing them highly valuable examples. The Red Lion Inn was selected for the resting-place, on account of its being an old house of not later erection than the middle of the fifteenth century, and even now in a very genuine condition. Here, in a room with a very fine moulded and carved ceiling, the party dined, and afterwards a meeting was held for the discussion of the matters seen during the morning. Mr. Chas. Roach Smith, F.S.A., presided, and opened the meeting by stating, that Colchester had been selected for this inspection because it was believed to possess antiquities of almost all periods, from the time of the Romans down to Queen Elizabeth, and interesting remains even of a later period. The chairman noticed many important discoveries which had been made here of late years, including both Roman and Saxon cemeteries. The places visited during the day were then brought before the meeting by the secretaries for the occasion, Mr. Alfred White and Mr. Charles Baily, F.S.A., and discussed.

Many objects of interest, such as ancient seals, rings, coins, &c. &c., were laid upon the table, and also a drawing of a Roman pavement, only just discovered in the north of Essex. Although it was intended that the meeting should be only of a private nature, from the great interest it excited in the town it partook of a public character, and was

attended by many of the gentry and clergy, and did not break up until eleven o'clock.

On Tuesday, under the guidance of Mr. Tabor, the members visited the museum at the town-hall and the remarkable stone sphinx at the hospital, and then proceeded by invitation to St. Mary's Lodge, the seat of H. Vint, Esq., whose superb collection of Greek and Roman coins (many of the latter found at Colchester and in the neighbourhood), and bronzes, vases, &c., was examined, and gave the greatest satisfaction, and afforded a high intellectual treat to the whole party, as did also the museum of Mrs. Mills.

The party then left the town, and proceeded by railway to Kelvedon afterwards, to view the newly discovered Roman villa at Rivenhall, where they were joined by Mr. J. A. Repton, F.S.A. and a party from Chelmsford. The villa has as yet been only partly excavated, but we understand it is the intention of Mr. Weston to explore the whole. This gentleman's collection, at Felix Hall, of ancient sculpture, tessellated pavements, and other interesting objects, was also visited; after which the members returned to London, where the closing meeting was held, all highly delighted with their two days' excursion.

The local members on the occasion fully performed their duty, and great thanks are due to Mr. Sprague and Mr. Weir for their great attention.

BRITISH ARCHEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

Oct. 14th. Public Meeting.—Mr. Pettigrew in the chair. A letter was read from Prof. Worsäal, dated Inverary, near Aberdeen, informing the Association that this distinguished foreign archaeologist had been visiting the coasts of Scotland, and excavating among the antiquities of that district; and that he hoped, on his return to London, to lay the results before one of the meetings. Mr. Williams exhibited and described a number of drawings of very interesting objects of antiquity. Mr. John Williams exhibited a rubbing of a very fine and unusually well-preserved brass, found concealed under the pews of a church in Hastings. Mr. John Nicholl, exhibited a remarkably fine gold British coin, found at Standen, near Puckeridge, Herts. Mr. Bland, of Hartlip, exhibited one of two very remarkable glass vessels of evident Saxon manufacture, found in the gravel at the edge of the high ground overlooking Attenham Creek in the Medway, the site of the Roman potteries visited by some members of the Association last summer. Mr. Smith exhibited an impression of a coin of Harold I., found recently near Ipswich. It is a variety of No. 214 in Hawkins's silver coins of England. Mr. Rolfe exhibited a beautiful unpublished variety of the gold coins of Carinus, found near Sandwich some time ago. The reverse reads VICTORIA AVGG—victory on a globe; the obverse represents the emperor holding a baton or javelin on his shoulder, and on his left arm a shield ornamented with a Medusa's head: it is a perfect gem of art. Mr. Henry Hearn, of Newport in the Isle of Wight, forwarded tracings of the curious tradesmen's marks appended as signatures to a petition of the burgesses of Yarmouth, Isle of Wight, in the time of Henry VIII.

Mr. Wright read a paper on the mediæval traditions of the worship of a Roman-Germanic triad of goddesses found sculptured on a number of Roman altars, discovered more especially on the sites of the Roman towns on the banks of the Rhine and in England. A number of mediæval traditions, superstitions, and legends, were pointed out, in which these three personages appear to figure; but as it is understood that this paper will appear in the forthcoming number of the Journal, we abstain from giving any further notice of it at present. It furnished an interesting proof of the light which may often be thrown back on obscure points of the archaeology of the later Roman period by the study of mediæval antiquities. Mr. Smith, in continuation, made some remarks on the ancient monuments to which this paper alluded.

The Rev. H. A. Barritt, through Mr. Golding, exhibited drawings of the sculptures on the font of St. Clement's Church, Hastings, representing shields containing emblems relating to the crucifixion. Mr. Isaacson stated that the seal of Queen's College, Cambridge, contained nearly the same emblems. Mr. Newton said that he had seen them on shields in various parts of the continent, and some persons had very erroneously supposed them to be heraldic. Some further observations were made on this subject.

Mr. Keats exhibited a drawing of a perfect Saxon seax, recently discovered in Kent, which gave rise to another discussion on the form of that weapon, in which Messrs. Fairholt, Smith, Isaacson, Wright, Newton, and others, took part.

Mr. Wright read letters from the Rev. W. C. Bingham, of Bingham Melcombe, Dorset, relating to early dates inscribed in Arabic numerals, found on buildings in that neighbourhood: the dates were 1487, 1498, 1514, and 1569; the figures of the latter being of a somewhat remarkable form. Mr. Newton mentioned a date of, to the best of his recollection, 1490, on a brass in a country church. Some other observations were made on this subject; and Mr. Wright said that every thing combined to strengthen the opinion that the so-called Arabic notation was only coming into use for such purposes in the latter half of the fifteenth century.

Mr. Hunt, of Ipswich, exhibited, through Mr. Smith, an impression of a very elegant antique intaglio, set in a mediæval gold ring, and found recently at Holbrook Brook, in Suffolk. Dr. J. W. N. Carne exhibited an impression of a matrix of a seal, found near Cowbridge, apparently that of the Black Friars of Cardiff, from which town it had probably been brought in a heap of manure for the field where it was picked up. The inscription is S. FRM. TRINITATIS DE KARDIF IN WALLIS. There were some other communications from Messrs. Warren, Fitch, &c.

In closing the meeting, the chairman announced that arrangements had been made for changing the place and evening for the public meetings, and that a card, stating the new arrangements, would be sent round with No. 7 of the Journal at the end of the month. Rooms, it appears, have been taken in Sackville Street, more convenient than the present place of meeting, and the evening of meeting is to be changed from Wednesday to Friday.

FINE ARTS.

HISTORICAL ACCOUNT OF PAINTING AS FORMERLY USED IN CHURCHES.*

As the discovery of paintings on the walls of churches is now one of daily occurrence,—an instance having, indeed, been communicated since the meeting of this congress,—perhaps it may not be uninteresting to offer a brief history of the practice of decorating churches with religious pictures, from its gradual introduction until the period of the Reformation, when, in this country at least, the practice received a death-blow from which it has never entirely recovered.

The earlier Christian converts, being Jews, carried with them all those prejudices against the representation of life so rigidly guarded against by their law, as well as by the often-denounced practice of the pagan nations by which they were surrounded. Their zeal, indeed, against the arts so extensively used in the heathen temples may be learnt from the strong invention of their apologists. They even carried their enmity against the artists themselves, excluding them from their communion, if, as converts, they continued to practise the hated profession, and denying the rite of baptism to those candidates for admission, unless they renounced it. As they obtained more power and influence, we have instances of fanatical rage similar to that of the Puritan of a later time; and per-

* This is the interesting paper sent by Mr. Waller to the Congress of the Archaeological Association too near its close to be brought before the meeting.—Ed. L. G.

haps the progress of Christianity, more than any other cause, hastened the downfall of the already declining art of antiquity. But it is evident that the accession of heathen converts to their communion must gradually have weakened this prejudice; and indeed, I shall presently have occasion to shew that it was from among them that the practice first obtained.

The first public notice that we find taken of paintings in churches is among the canons of a provincial council held at Illiberis, now the city of Elvira, in Spain. The precise date of this assembly is unknown, but it was near the close of the third century. The words of the canon by which the practice is unreservedly condemned are emphatic and precise. It says: "It hath pleased that pictures in churches ought not to be, neither may what is worshipped or adored be painted on the walls." This condemnation of itself argues a somewhat extensive application of a principle; but it must be observed that in this sentence we must not recognise the voice of the church, for it is certain that it never received universal attention, and in all probability its influence was not felt beyond the province in which the council was assembled.

The first indications of a yearning towards representation in the Christian society was evidenced by the use of symbolic forms—such, for instance, as the fish, the lyre, the dove, the lamb, the vine, the palm, the ship, the anchor; to which may be noticed the cross, as probably the earliest of all, and the monogram of the holy name.

It is in the catacombs of Rome—places consecrated so early to Christian worship, through the dangers to which its early professors were exposed—that we meet with the earliest examples of the use of painting in the new religion. These are very evidently the productions of converts from the heathen, as they so closely resemble in style and character the previous pagan decorations. Indeed, this resemblance is so remarkable, that it requires a very narrow examination of the subjects to distinguish the one from the other. It is also observable that the selection of subjects betrays extreme caution and reserve; those having an indirect allusion to the doctrines of Christianity, by way of antitype, being at all times preferred. Of these, the most frequent was the story of the prophet Jonah, which was generally told in four compartments: the first shews a naked figure of the prophet reclining beneath a frame on which the gourds are trained; the second shews the mariner casting him into the sea; and it must here be remarked, that the idea of the whale is curiously expressed by an animal resembling the seahorse of classic antiquity: the third, the monster casting him upon land; and the fourth represents him seated.

A selection of miracles from the Old Testament was also of frequent occurrence, arranged together thus: Noah receiving the dove returning with the olive-branch; Moses striking the rock; the manna in the wilderness; Abraham about to offer up his son Isaac; and a few others. Of subjects from the New Testament, though rarer, many were particularly selected; such as the paralytic carrying his bed, the raising of Lazarus, restoring the blind to sight, &c. The manner of treating these subjects was peculiar, and exhibited a symbolic tendency. The introduction of the figure of the Saviour is rare, unless it be under the form of the good shepherd carrying on his shoulders a lamb strayed from the flock; but there is no attempt at any peculiar elevation of character. Another popular subject belongs to this period of Christian art, and this only: it is that of Orpheus playing on the lyre, plainly taken from pagan art, although there was a strong inclination to give to the Orphic hymns a prophetic character. The earliest design in which the Virgin and Child are introduced is in the catacomb of S. Callister, pope, on the Appian Way: this is the adoration of the Magi, who are all represented in the Phrygian cap.

It would be impossible, in the brief space to

which I must confine myself, to enter as much into detail as this subject requires. I must therefore be content with a very general glance, noting only that which is of particular interest.

I will therefore now pass from the consideration of the painting of the catacombs to notice one of the earliest descriptions of the decoration of a Christian church that has come down to us. This is found in one of the epistles of Paulinus, Bishop of Nola, who flourished at the latter half of the fourth century, the contemporary of Saints Augustine and Jerome. Paulinus was a native of Aquitaine, of senatorial rank, and of great wealth. He became a convert to Christianity, and was exceedingly zealous in his new faith, in proof of which he constructed a magnificent church near Nola, in honour of St. Felix the martyr, of which he has given a very interesting and minute description, both of the arrangement and of the nature of its decorations. Among other things, he describes the paintings introduced on the walls and vaulting, all of which appear to have been selected from the Old Testament. Then he continues to enumerate and descant on the several subjects, from which it appears that it contained the story of Moses, the passage of Jordan, the story of Ruth and Orpah, and, arranged on walls opposite to each other, the temptation of Job, story of Tobit, Judith and Esther. We also learn from him that the custom of affixing descriptive legends or texts illustrative of the subjects had already obtained; for he says, "alluding to the subject which is expressed above by titles, that the letter may shew what the hand has explained." He concludes by asking his friend if by chance he should require some reason for this new practice of painting the sacred houses, he will shew it in a few words. He then goes on to say that the place was frequented by a rustic crowd not learned in reading, for whose edification it was intended; and that such had been the effect that, "behold, frequent vigils extend through the whole night."

In the fourth century the arts were rapidly declining, but if we could place confidence in descriptions, we might yet imagine a power existing of no mean character. Among the records of the second council of Nice there is an account of a painting of the Martyrdom of St. Euphemia, given by Arterius, bishop of Amasia, belonging to this era, in which the diversities of expression are particularly noted and described, and the highest encomiums are bestowed upon the painter, not, indeed, undeservedly, if his work answered the description. "Greatly I admire," says he, "the painter who the affect of fighting nature, that is to say, modesty and manliness, could combine;" and in another part he bears testimony to the faithful and expressive colouring thus: "for so manifestly and evidently the painter has coloured the drops of blood, that you might swear it to flow from the lips, and with weeping you are compelled to depart." In this country there can be no doubt that it was introduced with Christianity itself by the missionary St. Augustine; as Pope Gregory the Great said it was chiefly for the sake of the heathen, instead of reading, that they might learn from them what they ought to worship. Thus in the seventh century we find two eminent men, St. Wilfrid and Benedict Biscop, both employing the arts extensively in the service of religion. Bede gives an account of the latter bringing paintings from Rome to adorn his church at Weremouth. The images of the Virgin Mary and twelve apostles were disposed on the roof at the east end, carried from wall to wall, arranged apparently in tablets or panels, for they were doubtless executed on wood and in distemper. Subjects of Gospel history were disposed on the south wall, the visions of the Apocalypse of St. John on the north. A similar testimony, drawn from the same authority, is given by Gregory Nyssen, who said he could not contemplate a picture of Abraham about to offer up his son without shedding tears. We must, however, accept these testimonies with some reserve;

for at a later time, when the arts were in the lowest state of degradation, it is not uncommon to meet with similar encomiums. There can be no doubt, then, that the close of this century saw the principles of decorating churches with paintings established far and wide wherever Christianity was to be found, and it seems to have gone on silently, without encountering any opposition, except, perhaps, from small communions of heretics.

That abuses, however, had crept in very early, we have the testimony of St. Augustine; who says that he knew many who were adorers of pictures and sculptures, but it was not until the eighth century that an attempt was made to suppress the practice. This, however, was attempted by the Emperor Leo, known thence as the Iconoclast. By him religious pictures were proscribed in the churches of Constantinople and the provinces, they were, by his edict, defaced and covered with a smooth surface of plaster; but so greatly were the popular feelings outraged by these proceedings, that civil war, embittered by theological controversy, raged throughout the Roman empire for upwards of a century. To settle the question, his son and successor, Constantine, called a council of the Church at Constantinople, A.D. 754, which pronounced a unanimous decree that all visible symbols of Christ, except in the eucharist, were blasphemous, and that all such monuments of idolatry should be destroyed. Notwithstanding, however, the vigorous persecution of those who fondly clung to the practice to which they had been so long accustomed, this decree was found impossible to be enforced. The second council of Nice, which took place in 787, finally settled the question as regards the church, and produced a very permanent effect on the practice of church decoration. The records of its proceedings contain a vast deal of information relative to the doctrine of the church on the subject. It asserted, contrary to historic truth, the continuous use of pictures from the time of the apostles; but its decrees respecting the relation of art to the church were the most important, because of the extraordinary influence that they had in reducing art to a mere convention dependent on the theologian. The council decreed that the structure of images was not the invention of the painter, but the approved legislation and tradition of the church; and in another place it says, "the art alone is the painter's, but the ordination and disposition the holy father's." The consequence was, that from that time art lost its mental activity, and remained stationary for centuries; and in the Greek church to this day it affords a most singular phenomenon of the repetition of the same forms handed down from one generation to another, so much so that M. Didron and Durand, the eminent French antiquaries, remarked, in a tour in Greece in 1838, that the resemblance between works executed at St. Mark's in Venice by Greek, or as they are better known Byzantine, artists in the 10th century was complete, even to the number of folds in the drapery, to works many centuries subsequent; as doubtless it was the monasteries of Mount Athos that furnished with designs the artists who, from the 7th to the 12th centuries, filled the churches with their productions. The influence of Byzantine art was felt throughout Europe for many centuries. Their art, founded upon the decrees of the Council of Nice, remained, as before observed, a fixed type without improvement, possessing but a limited mechanical power and still less feeling for nature.

The freer spirit of the West naturally operated very powerfully in destroying this domination which fettered the hand of the artist; for although convention can be observed even to the end of the 14th century, yet there were many departures from its influence. It is exceedingly curious to note this feature in medieval religious art, which we have many opportunities of observing throughout the 12th, 13th, and 14th centuries, whether seen in MSS., sculpture, or paintings on the walls of churches; even in the technical delineation of form,

down to the middle of the last-mentioned period, there seems to have been a fixed rule. This may be partially noticed in the mode of drawing the features, which certainly for a whole century does not materially differ.

After the decision of the Council of Nice no serious opposition was made to pictures in churches, and there can hardly be a doubt but that every church had some kind of religious painting on its walls.

[To be concluded next week.]

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

FRANCE.

Paris, Oct. 12, 1846.

THE opening of the season at the Italian Theatre took place under the saddest auspices. *Lucia* had been announced, but on the day fixed, the pale *Edgardo*, suddenly afflicted with an obstinate cold, was unable to present himself before the public. Evil-disposed people have detected in this ill-timed malady a feeling of diffidence which would honourably attest the modest pretensions of Mario. It has been asserted that he dreaded the comparison which the public would have had an opportunity of drawing between him and Duprez, who is also now performing the part of *Ravenwood*. But the same fate awaits the rheumy tenor and the dying monarch. People will never look upon these great events as upon the common manifestations of the laws of nature, which has moulded throats of velvet-like softness and potent kings of the selfsame stuff as the most vulgar larynx and most humble clod.

However this may have been, the *Semiramide* was substituted for *Lucia*, and Coletti for Mario. I know not whether you are acquainted with M. Coletti, who has been some time on the stage. He is tall, of a proper height for his calling; his features are wanting in regularity and command; his voice is good, and easy of management in the medium compass. But all his lower notes (from the *sol* of the medium) are wanting in firmness, in character and in impressiveness. His studies have been excellent. This was noticed from the first, by the clever and practised manner in which he sang his introductory passage, "Si, sperate." But at the same time he gave the measure of his powers as *basso cantante*, suppressing several passages, in which the melody merges into a graver tone, and which doubtless embarrassed him, and would have exposed him to some fatal misadventure. For instance, in the duet between *Assur* and *Arsace*, he skipped over the line

"D' uno scita il folle orgoglio,"

in which are three notes (*re bémol*, *ut* and *si grave*) which would have completely disappeared under the brass accompaniment, placed by the author in juxtaposition.

As an actor, M. Coletti is much below the standard left by recollections of Lablache and Galli, of the terrible character of *Assur*. Tamburini, notwithstanding his undoubted merits, did not possess all the qualities requisite for playing it properly. M. Coletti causes Tamburini to be regretted. But, thank heaven, all the parts he will have to sustain, all the music which may be allotted to him, are not of such high order; and the new baritone—for such is the only title fit for him—may aspire to a most honourable success in parts which exact from the performer less power, less energy, a lesser volume of voice, and especially which require grace and feeling.

The part of *Arsace* is held by Madame Brambilla. This lady has so much talent, so much grace, and a method so sure and so masterly, that we should scarcely be welcomed did we notice that her voice, fearfully worn, possesses no longer any *timbre*, save in a few high notes. We will not even proclaim too loudly that her elegant *floritures* and the laboured delicacies of her singing are rather more injurious than useful to her in this part, which demands an energetic and proud accent, a gravity of style, a breadth and passion she does

not possess. Madame Pauline Viardot Garcia, whose physical powers are certainly very incomplete, was, nevertheless, a far different *Arsace*. She did not suppress her first duet with *Semiramide*. She did not deprive us of that admirable air of the second act in which Madame Pisaroni was so sublime. And lastly, she did not inflict upon the music of Rossini those strange mutilations which end in converting it into a different music, the music of Madlle. Brambilla.

Madame Grisi was welcomed again with pleasure. Her beauty, which waxes off so well the traces of increasing years, her proud look, her quick and sonorous voice,—notwithstanding that her breathing appeared to us rather short, and somewhat uneven at times—produced their wonted impression.

Such was the general effect of this brilliant representation by which this new season at the *Bouffes* is decidedly inaugurated. Forgive me if I have spoken of it lengthily; it is, after all, the event of the week.

The reconciliation between Mademoiselle Rachel and the Théâtre Français might have contended with it for the honour of attracting public attention; but this reconciliation took place, thanks to some officious intervention, in secrecy, and, as it is said vulgarly, *sous le manteau de la cheminée*. Roxane promised not to be ill in future, and will reap the rewards of good health, besides those awarded to her talents; so, owing to some reciprocal concessions, it is said that the Théâtre and the actress will henceforth live in perfect harmony.

The representation of *Hamlet*, at St. Germain (translated by M. Paul Meurice, retouched by M. Dumas), made no sensation save in the *feuilletons* of Monday, whose writers, the author of "Monte Christo," the "Trois Mousquetaires," "Joseph Balzamo," &c., had not failed to invite to a splendid supper. It is said that four hundred guests were present at the *fête* (reduce this amount three-fourths and more than a reasonable number will yet remain). The night was partly spent in drinking, and the majority of the company might well confound the merits of the play with those of the champagne which the translators poured out to them so profusely. Add to this, that the dramatic week has been despairingly sterile, and that, for want of better, the *Vieux Williams* was put into requisition.

The most curious feature in all this is the astounding impertinence with which M. Dumas and his young *collaborateur* have altered the catastrophe of *Hamlet*, and brought about the intervention, in the lists when *Laertes* and the *Prince* exchange the fatal blows, of an angel, a most Christian angel, who doles out to each personage his quantum of pedantic morals.

This expedient, renewed from one of the most wretched melo-dramas of M. Alex. Dumas (*Don Juan de Marana*), produces the queerest effect in this play, eminently pagan, of that good *Vieux Williams*, so much superior, after all, to these youths of forty-five, who treat him thus familiarly and fraternally.

Apropos of Alex. Dumas, are you acquainted with his last piece of braggadocio? It is much in the same taste and style as his answers before the Cour Royale de Rouen. Availing himself of his connexion with the CHATEAU, whose most assiduous courtier he is, he has obtained the permission to follow the affianced prince to Madrid, in the capacity of historiographer; and to make the matter more solemn, he has taken with him, as his secretary, his *collaborateur* M. Maquet. These gentlemen besides attached a painter to their extraordinary mission. Then, communicating all these details to the papers for which they write, they announced that previous to his return to Paris M. Alex. Dumas intended enjoying some tiger-hunting in Africa. Captain Harris and his compeers may well look to themselves. Before two months are over I anticipate for them a narrative next to which all their adventures will be nothing but rose-

leaved recital and soft madrigal. M. Dumas, who formerly entertained us with his "beefsteaks d'ours," and trout killed at night, in a Swiss lake, by the stab of a knife, will now present us, to vary the "plats de son métier," tiger cutlets à la sauce piquante. What a mighty cook is this famed romancer!

The part of historiographer, solicited by this devoted servant (since 1832) of the Orleans dynasty, has ever been coupled with some ridicule or other. The nomination of M. Dumas has recalled to mind a pleasant *bon-mot*, to which the appointment of Moncrief to a similar post gave rise. Moncrief had written in his youth a drawing-room facia entitled "L'Histoire des Chats." When it became known at court that he was appointed to write the history of the king, "Bah," sang out a way of the *Ciel de Bœuf*, "Tis not historiographie, but historiogriffe you mean!" In English, where *griffe* is translated by *paw*, this *jeu de mots* is difficult of translation.

To return to M. Dumas: I wish that after the fine phrases he will embroider on the marriage of the Duc de Montpensier—that marriage which has cost so much in paper, pen, and ink to the journalists of the three kingdoms interested in the question—I wish, I say, that after these could be tackled, by way of parallel, a few of those he wrote some fourteen or fifteen years ago in praise of Robespierre and Marat; the following, for instance, which I extract textually from the *Souvenirs d'Antony*: "If the Supreme Being gives me time to conclude my work (Robespierre *loq.*) my name will be above all names. I shall have done more than Lycurgus for the Greeks, than Numa for Rome, than Washington for America; for I work upon an old state of society, which I must regenerate. If I fall . . . O my God, spare me a blasphemy against you at my last hour; my name, which shall have accomplished but one-half of the appointed task, will be marked by the bloody stain which the other half would have obliterated. The Revolution will fall with it, and both will be calumniated."

The man who in 1832 wrote this exculpation of '93, ended, in the last days of the Duc d'Orléans, by tiring out the generosity of that young prince, who loudly regretted not having at his disposal a civil list entirely devoted to gratify the whims and caprices of his favourite writer.

Between the red cap and the red heel, between the cut-throat and the courtier, between the mouth that will bite and the flattering, the mendicant lip, there is, you see, but a very little difference.

GERMANY.

A CONSIDERABLE improvement has just been effected in the application of a propelling power to carriages on railways by an officer at Vienna. It promises not only to supersede the atmospheric principle in moving heavy bodies up a plane of considerable elevation, but also bids fair to remove the possibility of a recurrence of those appalling accidents which are of so frequent occurrence both in England and France. The inventor is Captain F. Freisauff von Neudegg, who formerly directed the military studies of the sons of the Archduke Charles of Austria; and so great seems to be the confidence inspired as to the complete success of the new principle, that the celebrated engineer Günther, from whose locomotive factory the greater part of the engines on the railways of the southern states has proceeded, not only answers for its perfection, but has undertaken the construction of similar carriages at his own expense. The invention consists in making the advance of a whole train quite independent of the adhesion of the locomotive's wheels to the rail on which it moves, and by conveying the propelling power of the engine to the axles of all the carriages, and thus

* If Louis Philippe be treated like poor Will, we should say the monarch might well exclaim, "Any claws, Puss, but thine!" His majesty will doubtless have the worst of the treaty.

making their advance depend on their own adhesion. Each carriage becomes thus a locomotive, distinguished from the real locomotive only by the circumstance that the motive power is not independently applied, but is imparted to it by the engine-carriage. The whole train is thus enabled to ascend any rise that may occur above the level of the railroad which the engine, if alone, would be able to ascend. The same officer has also invented a break, by means of which a train may be conveyed down-hill with perfect safety, and at an equal rate of speed. The resisting power is placed without the line of road. Carriages built on the principle of Captain Freisauff have been tried at the great steam-engine factory of M. Günther at Wien-Neustadt, and have been found to answer the most sanguine expectations. On a line having a rise of one in forty they drew a dead weight of 600 tons at the (minimum) rate of one and a half German miles (eight English miles) an hour, and conveyed the same down an inclined plane with perfect safety.

A story, romantic enough to afford materials for a modern French drama, is much talked about just now in Prussia. Countess Hatzfeld, one of the loveliest women of Berlin, and at present in the full pride of her beauty, was noted for her emancipation from all those observances held necessary in society. Having, when very young, been married quite against her inclination, she determined to solace herself for the sacrifice by listening to the vows of her many ardent admirers. The Count, her husband, having formed a connexion with a Marquise de M., his wife determined to watch him narrowly in order to obtain proofs that might enable her to procure a divorce. Two of her admirers were to aid her in the prosecution of the scheme. The grand desideratum was to obtain some letters written by the Count to the Marquise. The latter lady had just started for Paris. The devoted knights-errant started in pursuit, and came up with her just as she had arrived at an hotel at Cologne. Among the baggage was seen a small case very much like a writing-desk, and it was conjectured that the correspondence necessary to prove the *liaison* would, in all probability, be found therein. The said case was therefore abstracted by the two *chevaliers*, certainly *sans peur*, if not exactly *sans reproche*. The case was speedily opened, when lo! instead of *billets-doux* it contained only *billets de banque*. Alarmed at the turn matters had so unexpectedly taken, they endeavoured to escape as quickly as possible. But the Marquise had already discovered her loss, and made inquiries. She observed the two gentlemen at the station just as the train was about to start. They entered one carriage and she another, and, on arriving at Brühl, she gave them both into custody. Thus the matter rests at present. As we said before, this was something for Alexander Dumas and others of his tribe, who, according to our notions, are better employed even on such stuff as this than in remodelling "Hamlet," and in writing a new fifth act to supersede Shakspeare's. Angry one cannot be at such a thing,—there is something so superlatively ridiculous in the circumstance as to exclude serious anger. Let the names of those Frenchmen, improvers of Shakspeare, be trumpeted abroad,—to wit, Monsieur Alexander Dumas and Monsieur Paul Meurice.

It may justly be considered as one of the remarkable "signs of the times," when in Germany the peasantry of a district unite together to express publicly and unflinchingly their opinions and feelings on any political matter, and, careless of the consequences, avow their firm intention to abide by them. To an "Englishman at home" it may not seem so very extraordinary an event; but to him who has lived long in the country, and knows how slow the Germans are to make anything like a "demonstration," and how assiduously any advance to any thing like an outburst of popular feeling is checked by the authorities, it cannot but appear as particularly striking.

The peasantry of the duchy of Oldenburg,—that is to say, the tillers of those lands lying between the Weser, the Elbe, and the North Sea, the men of Friesland, and the Old Saxons in the land of Hadeln, Kehdingen, Wursten, and in the Osterstader Marshes,—have themselves composed an address "to their brave brothers in Schleswig, Holstein, and Lauenburg," and which they send from farm to farm previous to being despatched in a few days to its destination. It is as follows: "First and foremost we offer you, in all sincerity, our hand and a hearty German greeting. We have heard and read of late, with much concern, of your present distressing position. Pain and indignation have filled our hearts at the injustice by which one wants to tear you from our dear old fatherland, to which ye cling with such warm love, and which cherishes you as its dearest children, and to make Danes of you. But at the same time it rejoiced our very souls when the tidings came that ye had stood forth so manfully and with such dignity; that you so admirably maintain the Right, and abiding thereby boldly face the Dane. From all parts of our German country, from cities and from universities, glorious addresses are sent unto you all assuring you of like sympathy. So, then, we too,—who also have painfully experienced how one feels when he sees his olden and cherished rights unprotected,—we, too, could not help telling you what moves our hearts so powerfully. But do not expect a long and learned treatise: our words are few, but hearty and well-meant. Only stand firm, dear brothers, and keep steadily on the way of Right; then your success is sure. Full of expectancy do we look towards Frankfurt: should it chance that the fatal knot be not loosened to your advantage,—well, then, we have swords, and the most holy right to hew it asunder. And then you may reckon on the strong arms of the German peasants. It was once upon a time peasants, mere peasants, who overthrew the guard of a certain presumptuous Danish king. And again, as then, shall the cry be raised, 'Wahre Di, Garde, de Buur de kumment.'"

We give this as a literary curiosity, proceeding as it does from the pen of a peasant of the marshes, and approved of by the assembly of husbandmen among whom it was read. As such, and not as a political document, it may find a place in the columns of the *Literary Gazette*.

Professor Schönbein's gun-cotton was tried at Mainz the other day with complete success. Every fresh experiment seems only to confirm the perfection of the invention. The Germanic Diet will, it is said, make the Professor an offer for the communication of his secret. We hear, too, that an American has been in treaty with him for a similar purpose.

The theatre of Stuttgart, which has been almost entirely rebuilt, was opened a few weeks ago. It is capable of containing about 1900 persons, being between four and five hundred more than formerly. The ceiling is painted in fresco, and contains the busts of the great poets and composers of different times and nations. The stage is heated by means of warm water, and the pit and boxes by the introduction of warm air. The whole of the building is illumined with gas.

THE DRAMA.

Drury Lane.—By an error of the press in our last, an observation on Madame Anna Bishop was perverted, and a truth rendered an injustice. We wrote that (particularly towards the close of the opera) she sang out of time, not out of tune, as printed: one should always dot their *i's*, if they do not stroke their *i's*. On re-hearing this lady, we have to give her due credit for a very pure intonation, and for a *velvety* quality of voice, which,

* "Take heed, guards, the peasant is coming." This relates to the battle of Hemmingstedt in 1500, in which three hundred peasants utterly destroyed the black guard of Cornet Schlenz.

within her compass, distinguish her from all female singers who have lately sung at our English theatres. This praise she fully merits; and if she had power equal to the sweetness to which we have alluded she would more truly deserve the exaggerated encomiums of friends, who, by exciting too great expectation, have done her no service. We should like to hear her in Mozart's *Don Giovanni*; and not in operas which must be transposed and altered to suit her "sfogato" notes! Is it not funny to have every penny-a-liner now writing about "sfogato" notes, using a term they never heard in their lives before as familiarly as a household word! 'Esthetics' has only been naturalised: at least so far as to be generally applied without a correct notion of the meaning.

Haymarket.—It was only a week ago we were regretting the banishment from our stage of several excellent stock plays and farces in consequence of there being no performer to undertake Scotch characters. But on the evening of the very day we did so Mr. Webster made the essay, and with much of talent and effect, at the Haymarket, in a neat and pleasant little three-act comedy, founded by Mr. Planché on *Les Mousquetaires de la Reine*, and produced under the title of *Queen Mary's Bower*. The Brussels Company made a small section of the public acquainted with the original libretto and its music; but Mr. Planché has changed all that, and omitted all this. It is now simply a very cleverly adapted and very excellently enacted drama, with enough of plot and incident, and no want of smart and agreeable dialogue. With regard to the performers, we have but one meed of praise to offer. Besides Webster's *Laird of Killcrankie*, a stiff old major of Caledonian dragoons, we have Hudson's *Captain Hector O'Donaghue*, a good corresponding Irish character; Mr. Braid a *Captain Norris*, with not much to do, Mr. Howe a *Lieutenant Ormond* (the lover, and evincing much improvement in his line); and a *Lieutenant Wentworth*, unimportant even in the hands of Brindal. Then we have the two maids of honour, of different dispositions, but both personated most satisfactorily, the liveliest by Miss Fortescue, and the more sentimental by Mrs. Seymour. The whole cast, indeed, does credit to the house, and will maintain the Bower for a long while in the favour established on its first night.—A vastly amusing importation from France (wonderful that it should have escaped translation these eight years!) was also produced here on Thursday, under the title of *Spring Gardens*. It is a nice, brisk, bustling farce, full of point, and capably acted by Miss Julia Bennett and Mr. Buckstone as leaders, who are ably followed up by Howe, Holl, and Mrs. S. Buckingham.

Adelphi.—On Monday a new piece, entirely dependent upon what has become a new phase in theatrical performances, was produced here with laughable effect. We have long been accustomed to dramas which relied for success on the peculiar talents, or even the bare peculiarities, of certain performers, which, however employed, were sure to please their audiences. But we do not remember any production where they went the whole hog till *The Jockey Club* achieved that goal. The fun lies in the appearances of those popular favourites, the comic Wright, the grotesque Paul Bedford, the lively Woolgar, the humorous Selby, and the clipping Mrs. Frank Matthews. Their costumes and manners are so ludicrous, that they need neither dialogue nor situation to make them entertaining; and so, with some amusing *contretemps* in an inn of very limited accommodation during the first act, the joke carries itself on most bravely. The second is rather of the *bis repetita* order, and does not tell so well; not only in consequence of the jest being a little worn out, but the race-course, where (like a bet) it is laid, not offering so eligible a field for the jostling of the human race. Compressed, it will run better.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

A LOVE-DREAM.

By the village hawthorn seated
 Waits a village maiden fair;
 In her ear are sounds repeated
 She hath heard elsewhere.
 Why hath happiness such fleetness,
 Wings that never rest?
 When did memory's words of sweetness
 Dwell in sweeter breast?

Lonely lies the field before her
 In the twilight hour,
 Yet the face of her adorer
 Smiles from leaf and flower.
 Inward lists she to her heart;
 In a world of thought Elysian,
 Where time has no part.

Lost in dreams of tender feelings,
 She forgets her cottage birth;
 Lost in all love's fond revealing,
 She is far from earth.
 Truly but she dreameth greatly,
 Nobly doth the maiden fade;
 She is in a mansion stately
 Wedded lady to the heir!

Wake her not—too soon love waketh—
 Soon is lost its world of dreams;
 Like a golden bubble, breaketh
 All that most enduring seems!
 Brighter heaven her soul is seeing
 In her trance than aught above;
 Lo! the whole of sense and being
 In the fulness of her love!

CHARLES SWAIN.

SONG OF THE IRON GNOME.

Sons of the day-beam, ye call us! We come
 Bygone the time when we asked ye for rest;
 Once ye conquered the will of the dark Iron Gnome,
 Now he willingly bows to a master's behest.

Years long ago, when man's fierce mandate rung
 Through our home, in earth's depths how we shrank at
 his call;

For his sake then the Gnome in mute agony clung
 To the crags of the rock in our primeval hall.

But the murderer man, with impetuous hand,
 Would drag us to light, and who blushed at the day
 As his blows made us forge him a warrior brand
 To temper in blood at a coming affray.

Then man came again to our mansions of gloom,
 And again was its deep silence slain by his cry,
 "Come, seal up my foe in a strong living tomb—
 Too quick slays the sword, he is willing to die!"

Forge me the chain for the vigorous limb,
 Make me the shackle, the bolt, and the bar,
 I am building a house where the sight shall grow dim,
 For the foes of my peace and the conquered in war."

Yes, then did we shrink from the dread voice of man,
 But now as we hear him we answer his shout;
 The tyrant is tamed, let him fashion and plan,
 And gladly will work every mighty scheme out.

Bind now the lands, but with strong iron rails,
 And we'll shout as "the train" to the terminus runs,
 Hurra! for the sickle, its blow never fails—
 Corn falls where man fell beneath sabres and guns!

Hurra! for the engine on sea and on shore!
 The ship, or the factory, each is our home;
 Let man ask for swords and for shackles no more,
 And his slave-willing slave is the dark Iron Gnome.

RICHARD JONES.

VARIETIES.

Printers' Almshouse-Fund.—We are glad to see, by the fifth annual report of the committee of this prudent and benevolent institution, that the funds subscribed are sufficient for the purchase of a suitable piece of land within five miles of London, for which they are in treaty. Their means for building are, however, still limited; and an earnest appeal is made to the trade, and all connected with it, to enable them to complete the almshouses for the reception of their worn-out fellow-typographers, somewhat similar to the excellent plan of the Booksellers' Provident Retreat.

Government Schools of Design. it is said, are proposed to be established in Ireland, Dublin, and Belfast, having the initiative.

Proposed Manchester Museum.—There can be no doubt that in a place at once so wealthy and so desirous of intellectual cultivation as Manchester, the proposal for establishing a suitable museum will not only be speedily carried into effect, but an institution worthy of the cotton capital formed almost by the "first intention." Towards this Lord

Ellesmere has already contributed by presenting to the corporation "The Creation," by Snyders, one of the greatest and most splendid works of that famous animal-painter. Mr. J. C. Grundy (so well known for his liberal spirit and enterprise in the Arts) has also given a number of beautiful casts from the antique, and a superb collection of fine engravings. Such examples will no doubt have many imitators, and in a very short time we shall find a museum in Manchester second to few in the empire.

Le Verrier.—Mr. Lassell, of Starfield, near Liverpool, fully believes, although he does not declare, that he discovered on the 3d inst. the existence of a ring round the New Planet *Le Verrier*, and at the distance of about three diameters from the disc of the planet northwards; and not far from the plane of the ring he observed a minute star having the appearance of a satellite.

Fanaticism.—Last week an attempt was made by three respectably-dressed persons (said to be from Cheltenham) to destroy Lord Rosse's telescope, to which they obtained liberal access under pretence of observing some celestial phenomena. One of these fools, when the instrument was lowered to a level with the horizon, threw a stone, which he had concealed for the purpose, at that splendid achievement of scientific labour, the speculum, but fortunately without doing any injury. In the effort, it is stated, the silly fanatic evoked his own just punishment by falling down and fracturing his right leg. The trio are, however, in custody to answer for the offence; and their reported justification is, that the telescope ought to be destroyed, as it is a blasphemy for man to scrutinise too closely the works of the Creator!

New Guinea: Navigation-Surveys.—Capt. Stanley, we observe from the ship-news in the *Nautical Standard*, is about to sail in command of an expedition to survey Torres Straits and adjacent coasts, where too many wrecks demonstrate the necessity for more complete and accurate charts. The service could not be in more competent hands. We learn from the *Sydney Morning Herald* that Captain Blackwood has done a good deal for the great Barrier, Darnley Island, Raine's Island, the New Guinea shores, erecting beacons, &c. It is stated that the time expended upon the survey of the Barrier, the erection of the beacon, &c., precluded anything being done there until the last few weeks of the last voyage; but sufficient was seen of its coast and inhabitants to cause the greatest regret on leaving it. The portion of country explored, which embraced about fifty or sixty miles to the west of the meridian of 145° east, was formed by a low coast, intersected by numerous inlets running many miles into the country, and forming, as was supposed, the deltoid *embouchures* of a considerable river or inlet of the sea: its shores were densely populated, villages of considerable size being passed at intervals of every two or three miles—at some of which they landed, and were enabled to look about them; but at some they were prevented, and their intercourse fiercely opposed. There were no signs of any previous intercourse with white people, and they were evidently ignorant of the effect of fire-arms; but they possessed some of the refinements of a civilised life, which shewed that they were a people of superior intelligence to the generality of savages, particularly to their neighbours of New Holland. It is added, "Lieut. Yule, of H.M. schooner *Bramble*, with the *Castlereagh* as her tender, under Mr. Aird, remains to carry on the survey of the outlying reefs and of the coast of New Guinea."

Recreation for the People.—The King of Prussia has, it is stated from Berlin, devoted no less a sum than 120,000*l.* to the formation of a covered garden in the centre of that city, to be used as a winter promenade by its inhabitants. A regulated temperature is to be maintained, and rare exotics of warmer climes cultivated in this truly royal design.

Rome.—Our fellow-countryman, Count Hawks Le Grice, who has recently brought out a romance

of art in Italian and English, called the *Principessa Inda*, has been included by the new Pope in the distinguished class of the four chamberlains of honour, called "Cameriere d'onore, di spada, e di capa," who are the chief of the three classes of chamberlains attached to the pontifical court. The classes are chamberlains of honour, chamberlains in service, and chamberlains, monsignori and knights.

Droll Typographic Accident.—The *Cambridge Chronicle* advertises a fine-arts subscription fund, which thus concludes, in consequence of a paragraph from another part of the paper having been accidentally transferred to the tail of the announcement:—"A haddock was captured off Whitehaven last week, in the belly of which was found a considerable part of a joiner's two-foot rule."

LITERARY NOVELTIES.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Christianity the Deliverance of the Soul, and its Life, by Wm. Mountford, M.A., 12mo, 2s.—Selections from the Dramas of Goethe and Schiller, translated, with Introductory Remarks, by Anna Swanwick, new edit. 8vo, 6s.—*Le Page's French School*, Part II., 5th edit. 12mo, 3s.; ditto, complete, 3 Parts, in 1 vol. 12mo, 9s.—*Naomi*; or, the Last Days of Jerusalem, by Mrs. J. B. Webb, 5th edit. 12mo, 7s. 6d.—*Epistles to the Few*, 2 vols. 18mo, 4s.—*Barnes on Corinthians*, Vol. I., edited by Dr. Cumming, cloth, 2s. 6d.; sewed, 2s.—*Turner's Letter-Writer*, 18mo, 2s. 6d.—*All is Well*: Letters and Journals of the late Lieut. F. B. T. St. John, 5s. 6d.—*A Day's Ramble about the Town of Lewes*, by G. A. Mantell, LL.D., 12mo, 5s.—*Archibald's Justice of the Peace and Parish-Officer*, 4th edit. 3 vols. 3l. 3s.—*Sacred Harp*, by G. Calthorpe, 8vo, 7s.—*Bridgman's Guide for the Treatment of the Teeth*, 18mo, 3s.—*Hall's (Dr. M.) Observations and Suggestions in Medicine*, 3d Series, 8vo, 8s. 6d.—*Moral Aspects of Medical Life*, by Dr. Mackness, p. 8vo, 7s. 6d.—*Edward's's Abridgement of Cases in the Prærogative Court*, 12mo, 5s.—*Men of Capital*, by Mrs. Gore, 3 vols. post 8vo, 1l. 11s. 6d.

DENT'S TABLE FOR THE EQUATION OF TIME.

[This table shows the time which a clock or watch should indicate when the sun is on the meridian.]

1846.	h. m. s.	1846.	h. m. s.
Oct. 17 . . .	11 45 28.7	Oct. 21 . . .	11 44 46.0
18 . . .	43 17.1	22 . . .	44 39.9
19 . . .	43 6.1	23 . . .	44 29.5
20 . . .	44 55.7		

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Harthill's *Monthly Railway, &c. Guide* (No. 28), especially as it relates to Scotland, appears to us to be very copious and useful.

The St. Albans Meeting and Mr. B. B. Cabell's plan for the benefit of "the masses," and also the proceedings of the Poor Man's Guardian Society, and other matters which connect all together in important views, we must reserve for more mature consideration.

Many thanks for the communication from Pall Mall, of which we shall avail ourselves next week.

The continuation of the paper on the King of Bavaria's *Walhall* in our next.

"G. F. F." will find a packet at our office.

The "Fox" and the Goose is a pleasant enough *jeu d'esprit*; but the subject of posthumous insult and vilification, calling forth a filial contradiction, appears to us to be too grave for joking. The absurdity with which the offence has been attempted to be bolstered up may demand our future notice as a literary public question.

In the personal portrait of the Danish Poet Andersen, in our last, p. 877, for "Toorkistan" read Kurdistan; and for pale colour read hale, i. e. not delicate, but a tender northern skin tanned by the sun.

To the Editor of the Literary Gazette.

Norwich, Oct. 3, 1846.
 Sir,—I have several times observed, during the present summer, after a heavy rain, a considerable quantity of a substance resembling seaweed, lying in patches, of a few yards in circumference, in different parts of my garden. I mentioned the circumstance to some naturalists of my acquaintance, and shewed them specimens of the deposit; but as they all appeared ignorant of its nature, I determined, on the occasion of a fresh fall this morning, to apply to your scientific columns for a solution of the enigma.

* We cannot solve it—the matter unseen: if any of our scientific friends can, we shall be glad to hear from them.—*Ed. Lit. Gaz.*

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